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THE TIMES

No. 65,213

MONDAY MARCH 13 1995

Promise of 'power, wealth and opportunity in the hands of the many not the few'

Blair writes new creed as Clause Four

By Philip Webster, Political Editor



Blair: no commitment to full employment

TONY BLAIR and John Prescott last night completed their break with Labour's past by agreeing a new constitution that backs a thriving private sector and rejects union demands for the party to commit itself to providing jobs for all.

In a meeting at the Labour leader's Islington home the chief representatives of Labour's modernising and traditionalist wings drew up a new Clause Four that recognises the discipline of competition and consigns its socialist creed to the dustbin.

Labour's ruling national executive will today be asked to approve the most decisive shift by Labour to the market economy in its history. But in words designed to inspire party members and potential voters the constitution also commits Labour to a Britain "where power, wealth and opportunity are in the hands of the many and not the few".

Labour's abiding values, the draft says, are social justice, equality, the fight against poverty and injustice, and solidarity.

Although the words "full employment" are omitted from the constitution it is implicitly recognised as an objective in a declaration that Labour would strive to give everyone the chance to realise their full potential, including the opportunity to work.

As a result, the leadership team believes, they have taken the most important step yet to proving that Labour has changed for good and is ready to form the next government.

Mr Blair has succeeded in his aim of making the new constitution focus on the values that should drive the party and its members, rather than allowing itself to get bogged down in the theories of economic ownership.

In doing so he has infuriated the Left, which is certain to hurl charges of betrayal over the abandonment of the full employment pledge for which Mr Prescott campaigned during the leadership elections last year. Gordon Brown, the

shadow Chancellor and Mr Blair's closest leadership colleague, tried to allay the fears of union leaders yesterday.

In a speech to the Scottish Labour conference in Inverness he declared that Labour was pledged to the "goal of full employment" and would use every instrument of government policy to get people back into work.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, told Labour yesterday that it was time to start spelling out its policies. Speaking at his party's spring conference in Scarborough he told Tony Blair's modernised party they must not retreat into "warm waffle and weasel words", but make clear what it stood for.

Mr Prescott's backing has been essential to Mr Blair's success in pushing through a change that his predecessors balked at. But the Left swiftly had him in its sights last night. Diane Abbott, a left-wing member of the national executive, said that full employment was clearly felt to be too radical a commitment for the leadership. "Poor John Prescott will have to eat his words," she said.

The new Clause Four, which will be presented to a meeting of Labour's national executive today and approved by a special conference on April 29, is around 400 words long. Also in front of the NEC will be the results of Labour's lengthy consultation exercise

within the party which is understood to show a big majority in favour of change.

A condensed version setting out the basic values will appear on every Labour membership card and replace the 77-year-old commitment to the "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange".

The new clause maintains the commitment to key services being publicly-owned — without naming any — but the pledge it set within the context of Labour's belief in a strong private sector and an enterprise market economy.

In keeping the words "full employment" out of the draft Mr Blair wanted both to avoid raising impossible expectations and offering a hostage to fortune to his opponents. But the draft backs the concept of full employment by making plain that Labour backs a society in which the talents of everyone can flourish.

Mr Blair's unexpectedly comfortable win at the Scottish conference on Friday gave him the backing he needed to finalise a tough, sharply-worded draft that ditches forever some of Labour's more outdated nostrums. He and Mr Prescott were determined from the start that it should not look like an "all things to all men" compromise resolution.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, made plain yesterday that he would have preferred the words "full employment" to be in the new clause but appeared ready to go along with an alternative.

Interviewed on *Breakfast* with Frost on BBC Television he said: "I think we have to use language that people can understand. People can understand full employment. If the words aren't going to be there I very much hope that there will be a phrase that people can see means that everybody has the opportunity for work during their life."



Decadent and over the top: critics adored Starzewski's grand evening gowns

High camp on London catwalk

By Ian R Webb, Fashion Editor

TOMASZ STARZEWSKI sent a dazzling collection down the catwalk yesterday which elevated camp to new heights. In marked contrast to the sober sophistication shown by many of the designers previewing their collections at London Fashion Week over the weekend,

Starzewski, born in England of Polish refugee parents, delighted spectators with his ostentatious wit.

From the twinkling neon-bright Christmas trees which decorated the catwalk to the fur-trimmed accessories worn by the models, everything was way over the top. Starzewski's collection mixed Polish folklore motifs with grand evening gowns, resulting in a

Howard moves to replace probation with tougher policy

By Frances Gibb and Richard Ford

MICHAEL HOWARD will outline proposals this week for a radical shake-up in sentencing in which probation orders will be scrapped and courts will be given new powers to impose tough new community sentences.

The Home Secretary will publish a Green Paper which will abolish the present non-custodial penalties — probation, community service or a mix — and create a new single community sentence.

In a key change likely to infuriate the probation service, magistrates will be brought into the front line and given the task of setting the programme of what community service will entail. At present this is left to probation officers.

Under the proposals, magistrates will be able to specify the type of punishment an offender must face and impose conditions such as day centre attendance, treatment for alcohol or drug abuse, a training scheme or an anger management course.

The Home Secretary will unveil his proposals on Wednesday, only 24 hours before he addresses the Association of Chief Officers of Probation in London. A special training drive for magistrates is being planned by the Home Office.

The Green Paper is Mr Howard's latest move to rid the public of the idea that community sentences are a soft option. It is also part of a drive to overhaul the probation service which is intended to attract more men and mature recruits into the service. Last week Mr Howard announced new guidelines on community sentences, including a ban on offenders being sent on holidays abroad.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said last night: "Min-

isters seem determined to continue their assault on the professionalism of the probation service. Ministers believe that if the courts are in the driving seat they will deliver tougher regimes for offenders, but we fear that the courts will impose too many conditions, causing rising costs and a rise in the number of offenders breaching their supervision."

If the proposals are contained in a new Criminal Justice Bill this autumn, it means courts will be hit by yet another sentencing shake-up when they are already reeling from the impact of two previous acts.

Rosemary Thomson, chairman of the 28,000-strong Magistrates' Association in England and Wales, said:

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"These new measures will test the professionalism of the probation service because they will have to rethink what they do. Magistrates will welcome the chance of being given greater discretion in sentencing, but the magistracy and probation service will have to work together very closely before any legislation comes in to determine how this would work in practice."

Paul Cavadino, spokesman for the Penal Affairs Consortium, an umbrella group for the main criminal justice agencies, thought a single sentence of community service would lead to more offenders ending up in custody.

At present offences are judged to be in one of three groups: so serious that only imprisonment will do; serious enough to warrant a community penalty; and the rest. Home Office officials have admitted that "everything is up for grabs".

United odds-on for FA Cup

Manchester United, the holders, who beat Queens Park Rangers 2-0, have been drawn to meet Crystal Palace or Wolves in the FA Cup semi-final. Tottenham Hotspur meet Everton, who beat Newcastle 1-0. United are 11-8 on favourites. Page 23

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Norma Major ignores Israeli security advice

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

NORMA MAJOR is to go ahead with a visit to Bethlehem today against the advice of Israeli security officials who have been prevented from escorting her in the occupied West Bank town.

The British Government believes that it would be politically disastrous for Mrs Major to be seen touring holy sites in the town under the protection of Israeli guns. Diplomats also think that there is more chance of an incident if she is seen with Israeli security.

They [the British] have turned down our offer to help to guarantee her security, which is not something that our people think is very sensible," one Israeli source said.

Mrs Major's visit caused heightened concern last night after a number of booby-trap bombs was found in the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip, just as John Major arrived yesterday in Jerusalem at the start of a four-day visit to the region. The discovery of the booby-trap bombs sparked a full-scale security alert.

Palestinian sources said that the largest of the bombs, one containing 132lb of explo-

sives, was planted on a route that Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, was to have used on his return from Egypt to prepare for the Prime Minister's visit to Gaza tomorrow.

Sources said Mr Arafat's motorcade had to be diverted to a small back road while the bomb was successfully defused. That incident and the discovery of at least five other booby-trap devices have increased concern about the safety of Mr Major and his wife and his entourage, which



Norma Major: turned down Israeli guards

includes leading British industrialists. Mr Major and the captains of industry are to spend much of tomorrow in Gaza, where relations between the poorly equipped and trained Palestinian police and thousands of Islamic extremists, opposed to the Israeli-PLO peace accord, are hostile.

In recent weeks, there has been a renewal of threats to assassinate Mr Arafat. The Palestinian police claimed last month that it had arrested a member of the Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist group. The police alleged that the group was plotting to kill the PLO chairman.

It is believed that members of the elite SAS unit will be involved in providing cover for Mr Major while he is in Gaza, where Israeli security, so much in evidence at yesterday's arrival ceremony in Jerusalem, will not be available. Besides seeing Mr Arafat, the Prime Minister is scheduled to visit King Hussein of Jordan.

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Leading article, page 19

Oxford divided on creating more dons

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

OXFORD dons are split over plans for a promotions system that would sweep away the university's egalitarian tradition as a "community of scholars" and encourage them to compete for status.

Academics and senior administrators are voting by post this week on proposals to create hundreds of new professorships and readerships, offering them a clear career ladder for the first time.

The result, to be announced on Friday, is regarded as one of the most important in the university's recent history. Traditionalists fear that reform might damage undergraduate teaching, which they regard as the cornerstone of Oxford's reputation, because academics would concentrate on research as the key to promotion.

While Oxford has long been home to many of the country's most distinguished scholars, it has deliberately eschewed the academic rat race and prided itself as a "republic of letters". But the pressure has become insurmountable to reward staff with coveted titles recognised by the outside world instead of relying on approval

from peers within tightly-knit colleges.

Under the changes proposed, which would bring it into line with other universities, at least 80 per cent of Oxford's 1,200 academics could expect to be promoted during their careers. The number of readers, the more junior appointment, would be quadrupled to 360, and those with the coveted title of professor increased from about 180 to more than 250.

Oxford has been forced to respond to a new culture in higher education in which academics, particularly scientists, believe that they need the kudos of titles to compete for research money from industry and funding councils. Oxford is also anxious to stop its brightest academics being poached by rivals proffering chairs, a trend which has accelerated since the former polytechnics began to create new professorships.

Oxford's new titles would be honorific because the university cannot afford to increase the salaries of those it promotes. Continued on page 2, col 8

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PM rejects Arafat parallel

Major criticises Clinton over Adams invitation

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, NICHOLAS WATT AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN MAJOR last night made a thinly veiled criticism of President Clinton's decision to meet Gerry Adams. After arriving for an official visit to Israel, the Prime Minister suggested that such contacts should not have been allowed until the Sinn Féin president had renounced violence.

The Prime Minister made his first intervention in the dispute over Mr Adams's trip to Washington by drawing distinctions between Mr Adams's White House visit and his own dealings last year with Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Mr Major made clear that it was only after Mr Arafat had renounced terrorism that he had met him.

Mr Major used a brief press conference with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, to underline the British Government's irritation at the invitation to Mr Adams to a St Patrick's Day reception at the White House on Friday. In a pointed reference, clearly aimed at Mr Clinton, he said: "It was only after Chairman Arafat signed the Declaration of Principles in Washington in September 1993 that I met him in Downing Street."

He said that it was "mischievous" to compare Mr Arafat and Mr Adams. "Terrorism has now been renounced by Chairman Arafat. I have not seen it comprehensively renounced by Mr Adams. Chairman Arafat is now actively opposing terrorism but Sinn Féin is still directly associated with a fully formed terrorist organisation."

"Chairman Arafat signed a declaration of principles. Sinn Féin have not yet committed themselves to the Downing Street declaration [of December 1993 between London and Dublin] and they are not yet party to any agreement within Northern Ireland."

Mr Major's criticism came amid signs that Sinn Féin is hardening its stance over arms, and increasing unease among Conservative MPs over the Adams visit and the

prospect of meetings between ministers and Sinn Féin.

Martin McGuinness, who is leading Sinn Féin's exploratory talks with government officials, said yesterday that his party would refuse to call on the IRA to decommission its weapons before ministers met Sinn Féin. Mr McGuinness told the ITV's *Jonathan Dimbleby* programme that Sinn Féin was prepared to use its influence with the IRA constructively, but added: "It is not realistic or sensible to expect that Sinn Féin should demand that the IRA decommission its weapons before Sinn Féin goes into talks with British ministers."

He called for all weapons to be decommissioned as part of



McGuinness reiterated Sinn Féin line on arms

an overall settlement. Mr McGuinness then hinted at the pressures Sinn Féin is facing from IRA hardliners when he said: "We are not going to be put into a position where the British Government attempts to undermine Sinn Féin's involvement in the peace process by putting Sinn Féin into a position where Sinn Féin comes into a confrontation with the IRA. That would be a very serious mistake and ultimately it would be damaging for the peace process."

Mr McGuinness's words and the Adams visit have further angered Tory MPs with Unionist sympathies. But there were doubts last night

over how many would sign a Commons motion to be tabled by the Unionists attacking the Government's position over meeting Sinn Féin. Some influential Conservatives, while supportive of the Unionist position, are reluctant to tie Mr Major's hands by backing a critical motion.

Andrew Hunter, chairman of the Conservative Northern Ireland backbench committee, said yesterday that a meeting between ministers and Sinn Féin before any "significant" decommissioning of IRA weapons could prove a "crunch point". He told Irish Radio: "Unless they [ministers] can be convinced that such a meeting really is necessary then I believe that meeting will be the occasion for an eruption of discontent from Conservative members of parliament."

Mr Hunter, MP for Basingstoke, gave warning that several MPs were unhappy with the Government's position of neutrality over the Union in the Anglo-Irish framework document, published last month. He said: "We would rather the British Government were persuaders for the Union just as the Government in Dublin are persuaders for a united Ireland."

Mr McGuinness, who provides Sinn Féin's strongest link to the IRA leadership, spoke of dangerous consequences if ministers refused to meet his party. He told the programme: "Who can say what will happen in a situation where the British Government turns round to everybody — inconceivable in my opinion — and say they are not going to meet with Sinn Féin, that there isn't going to be any all-party talks."

However, he added that he was committed to bringing an end to violence permanently. "What we are all about is removing the potential for further conflict which has always existed in the course of relations between Britain and Ireland."



Mette, one of the models, prepares for the spotlight

Continued from page 1 long cock feathers. Muffs and sweeping shawls edged with pom-poms of fur continued the decadent theme. Only for a moment did Starwinski turn down the power, with four little black cocktail dresses embroidered with jet beading. On Saturday night, the underground subway beneath the Natural History Museum was closed to the public, as the international fashion pack sat saw the latest collection by designer Helen Storey, part of London Fashion Week, which began on Friday.

Storey's show was a homage

London fashion

to the Sitwell family and featured snappy bright orange satin suits, miniature tailoring, fake fur stoles trailing the floor, and goody amounts of flesh barely covered with black lace tracery.

"These young British designers certainly have a lot more ideas than their counterparts in America," says Amy Spindler, fashion critic for the *New York Times*.

The number of international buyers in attendance is up by 27 per cent on last year. Even John Fairchild, the powerful figurehead of *Women's Wear Daily* (which can make or break a designer with just one review) is watching from the catwalk's edge.

Exports of clothing from the UK now total over £2.5 billion annually, eight per cent of which is British designer merchandise valued at £160 million. The clothing and textile industry is the fifth largest manufacturing industry in the UK, with an annual production of £14.5 billion.

High pay to escape legal curbs

FROM ARTHUR LEATHLEY IN JERUSALEM

THE heads of the privatised utilities are expected to escape specific legislation on boardroom pay. However, the Greenbury Committee, set up by the Confederation of British Industry to investigate executive pay and perks, will consider legal moves to increase public scrutiny.

Sources close to the committee believe that it could recommend that no executives should have a say in setting

their own salary and that full details of remuneration, including bonuses, share options and pension arrangements, be published.

The committee, led by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks & Spencer, hopes that a workable voluntary code will deter MPs from pressing for new laws. It is expected to issue guidelines to companies this summer.

Business leaders who flew to Israel yesterday with John Major on a trade mission, are believed to be worried that the

furor over pay for utilities chiefs has brought the private sector into disrepute.

The Prime Minister, who has expressed concern about "distasteful" salary rises, is to be pressed by the businessmen not to introduce new laws. One of the 27-strong delegation to Israel said yesterday: "We do not think that we should be forced to take draconian action but clearly there is public unrest and it is reflecting on private business generally as well as the utilities."

Security raised after Labour letter bombs

Police security for senior Labour politicians was stepped up last night after three letter bombs were sent by an organisation calling itself the Scottish National Liberation Army. A crude parcel bomb was delivered at the party's headquarters in Walworth Road, south London, last Friday and another was sent to Tony Blair's home in his Sedgefield constituency. A third, made from matches and lighter fuel, was addressed to George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, but was intercepted before it reached him at the Scottish Labour Party conference in Inverness.

The organisation has launched a campaign against Labour in protest at its refusal to support full independence for Scotland. Mr Robertson tried yesterday to play down the strongarm tactics while warning MPs to adopt extra vigilance. "Democratic politicians should not be intimidated by these sorts of threats, but they do have an obligation to keep their rhetoric at a level that does not encourage the lunatic fringe," he said. Mr Robertson confirmed that the police were providing extra security advice.

Marchioness inquest

A new inquest into the deaths of 51 victims of the *Marchioness* disaster opens today with some witnesses due to give evidence for the first time. The hearing at Hammersmith Town Hall into the sinking of the Thames pleasureboat nearly six years ago is due to last four weeks. Bereaved families were granted legal aid last week by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor.

Prison officer charged

A prison officer will appear in court today charged with attempting to help an inmate to escape from Wormwood Scrubs jail in west London. Hayden Southam, 58, of Acton, will appear at West London Magistrates' Court accused of offering duplicate keys to the jail. The Prison Service said that the governor of the jail had put additional security procedures in place.

Saboteurs halt hunt

Hunt masters are to seek urgent talks with police after violent scenes forced a foxhunt to be abandoned. Christopher Thorogood, master of the Essex Hunt, ordered 30 riders and followers to disband after 90 minutes amid angry scenes in which two women sitting in a car were stoned by masked saboteurs. The hunt at Moreton, near Ongar, was disrupted by several vanloads of protesters.

Channel Tunnel chaos

Travellers without tickets hoping to use the Channel Tunnel were advised to avoid Le Shuttle for most of yesterday. AA Roadwatch confirmed that Eurotunnel had asked it to issue the advice after the "turn up and go" service was massively oversubscribed on only its second weekend of operation. On Saturday stranded motorists threatened a roadblock at the toll booths, Kent Police said.

Terrier attacks baby

A six-week-old baby underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being attacked in her pram by a Jack Russell terrier. Laura McKellar suffered a fractured skull and severe lacerations in the attack in Glasgow on Saturday afternoon. Her grandmother Mary McKellar, 51, who had been visiting with the dog, was bitten on her arm as she forced the terrier out of the pram. The dog has been destroyed.

Virgin ready to bid for InterCity

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A CONSORTIUM led by Richard Branson's Virgin Group will this week take the first steps towards bidding for InterCity rail services to Scotland, the Midlands and the West Country.

London and Continental, one of four groups competing for the £2.7 billion contract to build and operate the Channel Tunnel Rail Link, will announce today that it has asked to be considered for British Rail passenger franchises as well. The decision will boost the Government's plans to auction the right to run rail services, which so far has attracted limited interest from the private sector.

London and Continental will seek to "pre-qualify" for all eight of the first franchise of services being offered for bids

from private operators and management buyout teams. However, its main interest lies in the East Coast main line from King's Cross to Newcastle upon Tyne and Edinburgh, the West Coast main line from Euston to the Midlands, the North West and Glasgow, and the Midland main line from St Pancras to Derby, Nottingham, Sheffield, and Leeds. All those services could operate directly with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link to provide a fast connection between the provinces and continental Europe.

London and Continental is also considering making a bid for Great Western, which operates InterCity services from Paddington to the West Country and South Wales. However, that has been given a

lower priority because Great Western cannot link directly with Channel Tunnel services.

If the bids are successful they would represent a virtual takeover of InterCity, regarded as the jewel in the crown of British Rail passenger services, by London and Continental. Will Whitehorn, a spokesman for Virgin, said the consortium had decided that the prospects for Channel Tunnel services to Europe and the domestic rail market were inextricably bound up. "If Eurostar is not a success then we would worry about the future of the domestic rail industry," he said.

No decisions on whether any formal bids for British Rail franchises will go ahead will be made until after the contract for the 68-mile Channel Tunnel Rail Link is awarded by the Government later this year. Bids must be submitted by Wednesday.

Sir Derek Hornby, chairman of London and Continental, said: "London and Continental is committed to building a FTSE 100 sized transportation business for the 21st century. We do not see our commitment to the rail industry stopping at the end of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link."

Three other consortia are in the running: Green Arrow, a German-dominated group chaired by Lord Kingsdown, former Governor of the Bank of England; EuroRail, chaired by Lord Parkinson and including BICC, GEC and Trafalgar House; and Union Link, whose members include Taylor Woodrow and Mowlem.

Rogers in call for petrol tax

By EMMA WILKINS

THE architect Sir Richard Rogers has proposed a set of practical steps to ensure that modern cities can prosper in harmony with the natural environment.

Delivering the last in his series of Keith lectures last night, Sir Richard said that governments must adopt long-term strategies to combat pollution, urban sprawl and the existence of inner-city ghettos populated only by the poor. Even Third World cities, such as Cairo, were recycling most of their waste, he told an audience of BBC Radio 4 listeners.

The Government should levy a tax on petrol and use the proceeds to improve public transport, he said. "We are essentially consuming cheap petrol now at the expense of long-term environmental damage," Sir Richard also advocated levies to deter private companies from building out-of-town shopping centres and business parks.

"The planet itself is perfectly capable of sustaining humanity, if humanity respects its dependence on nature," he said.

Beaches littered by Canadian rubbish

By NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MOUNDS of Canadian litter including chainsaw oil bottles and condoms are being washed up on British shores, a survey published today shows.

The Tidy Britain Group, which has carried out a ten-year study of where seaborne beach litter is coming from, claims that over a third of rubbish on British west coast beaches arrives from North America. The findings indicate that cracking down on shipping, sewage works and fly-tippers in Britain is not enough to keep the nation's coastline clean.

Levels of marine litter from North America, particularly from Canada, has risen fourfold over the past ten years. "In remote parts of Canada there is a practice of dumping municipal waste over the cliff," the group says. "This would account for the presence on Scottish beaches of Canadian litter not normally associated with vessels such as oil for snowmobiles, chainsaw oil, tree-marking fluid and baby-care products," it says. The 10-year marine

litter survey, covering 1984 to 1994, focused on 63 beaches on Scotland's west coast.

Remote sites were chosen because they are less likely to have been polluted by holidaymakers or be cleaned by councils. However, the group claims the findings mirror those from beaches along the west coast from Cornwall to Scotland. The survey shows that 80 per cent of beach litter comes from the sea, of which 65 per cent is estimated to come from European fishing vessels and small boats.

Over a third comes from the northeastern coast of North America, with a substantial amount having originated from the land rather than from shipping. The survey shows that the amount of litter has risen by 40 per cent over the ten-year period, with plastics, such as fishing nets, rising by a fifth. Sewage-related litter, including tampon applicators and condoms, has climbed 10 per cent with significant amounts traced to North America.

The study also sheds light on the changing lifestyle of sailors. Spirit bottles have fallen by 15 per cent since 1984, while soft drinks and milk containers have risen.

Oxford split

Continued from page 1 motives and does not want to change their duties. Academics would be able to nominate themselves for promotion annually to an independent appointments committee. If approved, the new system would be in place in the next academic year.

Lecturers and fellows have been content with their status, as the number of professorial chairs was so small that few even aspired to one. In the two decades before 1989 only one professorship and three readerships were granted on average each year.

Dr John Peach, chairman of Oxford's general board, which developed the proposals, said the university wanted to reward talent publicly. "There was a time when someone could say 'this person is at Oxford', but that argument is not so strong these days."

Dr Robert Stevens, master of Pembroke College, described the plan as a Trojan horse. "The proposal is an important nail in the coffin of undergraduate education at Oxford."

When the plans were debated last week by Congregation, the university's parliament, donors supported change by 67 votes to 13. The postal ballot is expected to be close.

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Success
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MODERN medicine has
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became the architect of her
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later.

B's father has been told that
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The Step Pyramid at Saqqara

Specialist expresses doubts Family of leukaemia girl prepare her for last chance of life

By ANDREW PIERCE

THE family of the ten-year-old girl suffering from leukaemia spent an emotional weekend preparing her for harrowing but potentially life-saving treatment at a private hospital.

Details of the five-day course of chemotherapy, which will cost £15,000, will be announced at the London Clinic at lunchtime today. If it is successful, and the child goes into remission, she will undergo her second bone-marrow transplant.

The treatment is being paid for by an anonymous donor after the Court of Appeal on Friday backed Cambridge Health Authority's decision not to fund the treatment on the NHS.

One of Britain's leading child cancer authorities last night expressed serious misgivings about the treatment, which the health authority deemed too distressing and unlikely to work.

Professor John Lilleyman, who in July became the head of child cancer medical services at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said: "If it were my own child, and I had reached the point where my medical advisers had said to stop, I would not want to go to the bitter end with aggressive therapy. I sympathise with the father. Parents need to satisfy themselves they have done all they can. But it is not always in the child's interests."

The father of the girl, known as B, broke the news of the treatment to her at his parents'

home in Croydon, south London, where she has been staying. It is close to the Royal Marsden Hospital, where she is being treated. His girlfriend, who has brought the child up as her own, was by his side.

The girl's nine-year-old sister, the donor in the first bone-marrow transplant, was asked to go through the experience again in a final attempt to make her better.

Professor Lilleyman, who works at Sheffield Children's Hospital, said that doctors regularly faced the same dilemma as that of Cambridge Health Authority. "Decisions like this are made by doctors all the time. I can understand a father desperately seeking alternative medical opinions."

"But my job as a doctor would be to say the child is my patient not the father's. I have to act in the patient's interests. I have never had parents come back to me when I decide to withdraw treatment. Once they have come through the acute grief phase they accept the wisdom of what was done."

"From what I understand, the decision of Cambridge Health Authority was a clinical one. It is just the case that the treatment is expensive. I think the same decision would have been reached if the treatment cost two pence."

Dr Peter Graven, the Harley Street consultant haematologist likely to carry out the treatment, emphasised yesterday that the girl had to be told what was happening. "I had to

tell him [the father] that before we could treat her, she needs to know what is going on. It is not going to be long before the penny drops once people start sucking lines into her and giving her drugs," he said.

Dr Graven is ready to begin the treatment today. Michael Sinclair, the family's solicitor, said yesterday that no decision on the timing had been made by the family. The money for the treatment was banked over the weekend.

After the Court of Appeal's decision there were offers of financial help from newspapers and from Mohammed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods. But the family chose the anonymous benefactor to ensure that the child's identity remained a secret.

The girl developed non-Hodgkin's lymphoma at the age of five and was sent to Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, where she received chemotherapy. By August 1992, she appeared to have made a full recovery. But 15 months later she was diagnosed as suffering from acute myeloid leukaemia and was transferred to the Royal Marsden Hospital for her first bone-marrow transplant. She left hospital last year and returned to school, but had a relapse in mid-January and was given just six to eight weeks to live.

The family's lawyers are investigating whether the case could go to the House of Lords or the European Court of Human Rights.



Parents of sick boy plan to sue

THE parents of an 11-year-old boy suffering from cystic fibrosis are planning to sue a health authority that refused to fund experimental treatment for their only child. In contrast to the Cambridge case, doctors treating Gavin Gerard have urged Northumberland Health Authority to authorise the new drug treatment, which costs £7,000.

The health authority has refused because it says that the drug, DNase, might not

work. Gavin's father, Ian, a fireman, said: "We will do anything we can to keep our lad alive and that includes legal action against the authority. It is disgraceful that treatment is being refused

because of the cost." The drug would not extend the life expectancy of Gavin, who is expected to live only until his mid-twenties, but, according to his doctor, it would dramatically improve the quality of his life.

His mother, Janet, of Alnwick, Northumberland, said: "All we want is for them to try the drug for a while to see if it will improve Gavin's condition. Surely that is not asking too much?"

Fraudulent paramedic had hoard of drugs

By EMMA WILKINS

A FORMER nurse who posed as a paramedic and attached a drip to the victim of a road accident had acquired a comprehensive collection of surgical implements and drugs, it was disclosed yesterday.

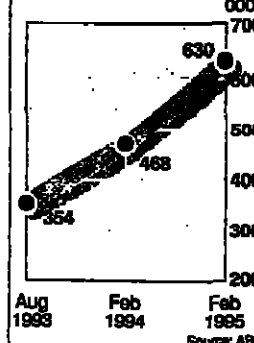
A hoard of 130 items, including bloodstained medical clamps and ampoules of sodium chloride, was found when police searched a car owned by Paul Corney, 47, from Langley, Berkshire. Corney, who once worked as an agency nurse at St Thomas's Hospital, London, was sentenced to 80 hours' community service and two years' probation at Aylesbury Crown Court last week after he admitted illegally administering a prescribed drug to the crash victim, Susan Farmer.

Police searched Mr Corney's Triumph Dolomite, which displayed a "paramedic" window sign, after he stopped on the M40 in Buckinghamshire and began to insert a drip into Miss Farmer's arm.

Officers became suspicious when a team of real paramedics arrived and removed the drip, which should be set up only by doctors or fully qualified paramedics. Dr Chris Carney, a former emergency "flying doctor" in Berkshire, said: "I find it extremely disturbing that someone with no experience as a paramedic can arrive at an accident and perform on members of the public with no control and no comeback."

THE TIMES

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Success of earlier treatment makes for poor prognosis

MODERN medicine has already helped Child B to defy death twice. Unfortunately, the treatment used in defeating the non-Hodgkin's lymphoma when she was five has become the architect of her present troubles five years later.

B's father has been told that the odds against his daughter surviving are very long, but they are not apparently absolutely hopeless. However, the possibility of a favourable outcome is not as high as has been suggested in some reports, which have not taken into account that the leukaemia was probably induced by her previous therapy.

B initially had non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a malignant disease, which older doctors know as lymphosarcoma, or reticulosarcoma. The outcome in any individual case depends on the variety of the lymphoma-sarcoma from which the patient is suffering. B was apparently cured of the lymphoma, but at a cost. The treatment used has the occasional effect of causing acute

Dr Thomas Stuttford assesses the prospects of recovery for Child B

myeloid leukaemia later. This seems to have happened and she has now become the victim of the treatment, successful as it was in the short term, of her lymphoma.

It is known that patients who develop acute myeloid leukaemia as the result of previous anti-cancer therapy have a particularly poor prognosis. B's acute myeloid leukaemia was initially treated with the standard measures, including bone-marrow transplantation, in which her sister was the donor. Normally this gives a 40 to 50 per cent chance of long-term survival.

Nine months after the first transplantation, B relapsed again. The sooner the relapse after transplantation, the less likely the patient is to benefit from a second transplant: even so, if other aspects of the case had been equal, B might expect somewhere around a 10 per cent chance of long-

term survival. But in her case, the chance of success would have been reduced by the earlier treatment.

Any parent would want their child to have a chance of living, however slight, and would not be influenced by talk of money better used elsewhere. They would know that money saved might just as easily have been spent later on cars for administrators.

The thought, however, that as a result of the treatment they fought for, their child might have to endure a more unpleasant end than would otherwise have been the case is highly relevant. But there is no evidence that a death from untreated leukaemia is likely to be appreciably easier than one from the complications of treatment. The determining factor in the comfort of any dying patient lies in the skill of the doctors and nurses looking after them.

Detective faces charges over antiques racket

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A DETECTIVE and two antiques dealers were facing theft charges yesterday after a nine-month international operation to break up a multimillion-pound ring dealing in treasures looted from Egypt and China.

Under Operation Bullrush, the biggest mounted by Scotland Yard's arts and antiques squad, three more dealers have been arrested in Britain and 24 men in Egypt, including officials from the antiquities inspectorate.

Detectives from Peking are expected to arrive in London to conduct a joint inquiry, the first time that police from the two countries have co-operated at such a level. Officers at Scotland Yard last night started to catalogue a haul of priceless antiquities with the help of experts from the British Museum and representa-

tives of the Egyptian and Chinese culture ministries.

The aim of the operation was to stop a huge London-based trade in artefacts from the Egyptian necropolis of Saqqara, burial ground of the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis, and from tombs and caves in China.

It is thought the treasures include hieroglyphic reliefs, gold jewellery and mummified remains from Egypt, and items from the Ming and Han dynasties in China.

As the scale of the racket emerged, Egyptologists were concerned that the granting of excavation licences by the antiquities service in Cairo, which jealously guards its treasures and bans their export, could be jeopardised.

Three Britons charged with dishonestly handling stolen goods and conspiracy to steal

included Detective Constable Roger Box, 45, who serves with Gloucestershire Police. He was arrested at his home in Cheltenham on Friday and has been suspended.

Mr Box will appear before Horsham Road magistrates in central London on July 20 with two antique dealers, Jonathan Tokely-Parry, 43, of Iddesleigh, Devon, and Andrew May, 36, from Barnstaple, Devon.

Three other Britons, from Bath and Hull, were arrested and freed on police bail pending further inquiries.

Valuable pieces have been recovered in the West Country, where they were ready for export to collectors.

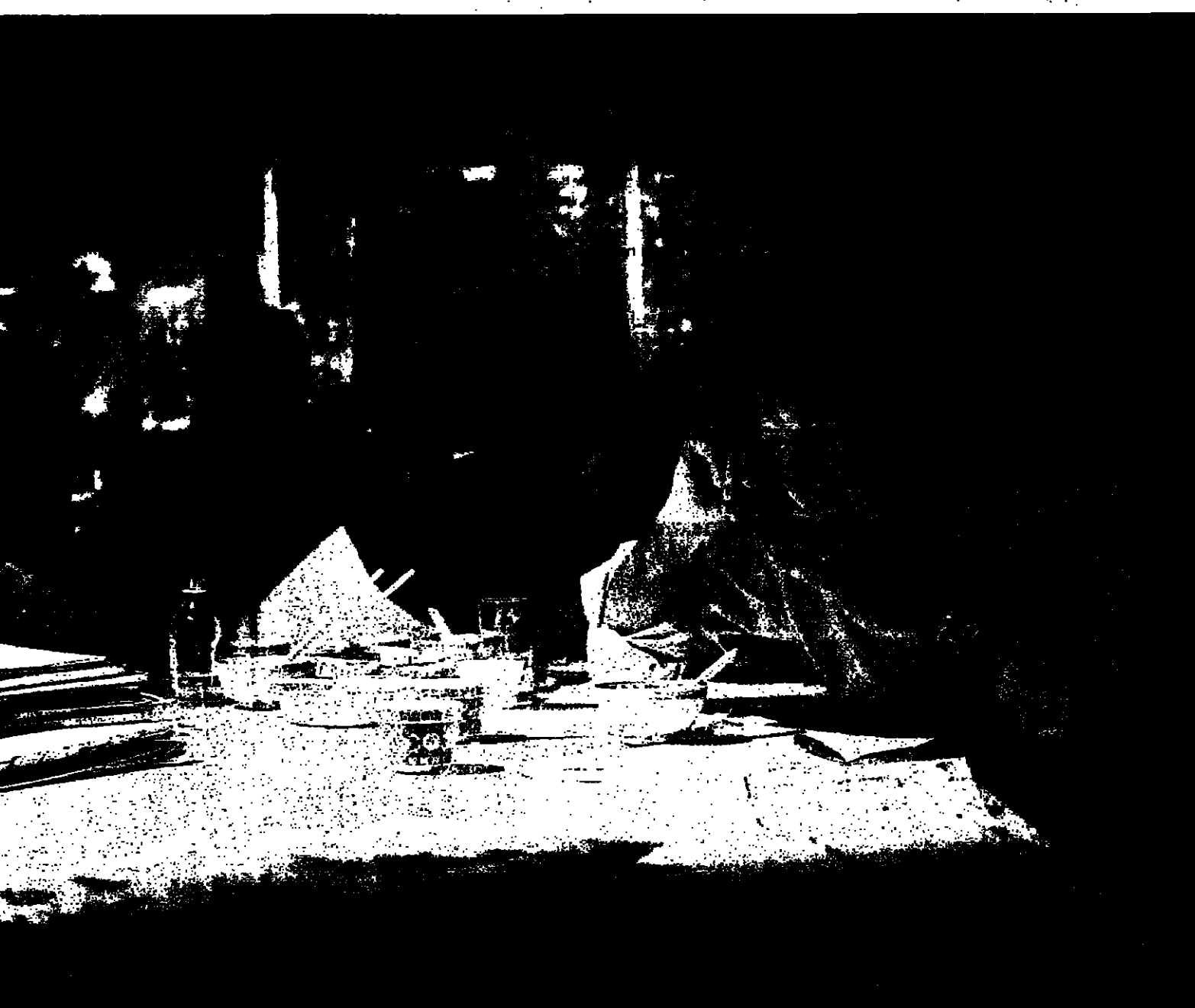
The racket is believed to have burgeoned with the convenience of low-paid watchmen who guard the sealed stores where treasures are stored. It was exposed last summer by Dr Jeffrey Spencer, an assistant keeper in Egyptology at the British Museum, who was approached by dealers and valuers to verify the provenance of items he recognised as coming from the Saqqara necropolis.

In Cairo, Dr Zahi Hawass, director of antiquities for Giza and Saqqara, said: "The thefts must be stopped even if that means hanging the culprits."



The Step Pyramid at Saqqara, scene of many thefts

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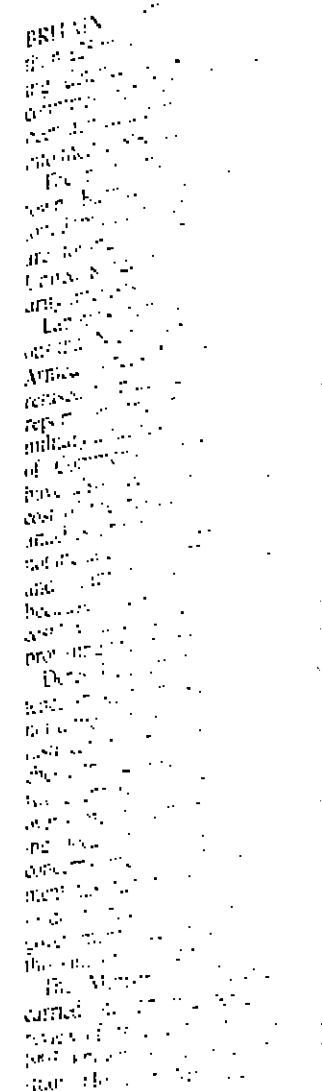
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THE TIMES MAGAZINE

MPs demand to question defence



MoD emb
by wasted

BY MURIEL L. GROSS
ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

MILLIONS of dollars have been wasted in the purchase of defence equipment, according to a study by the House of Commons Defence Committee, published last week.

The committee, headed by the Conservative MP Sir John Grieve, said that the Ministry of Defence had been "grossly misled" by the defence industry in the planning of armaments and that "millions had been squandered."

Referring to the purchase of the *McDonnell Douglas* *Blackburn* anti-submarine aircraft, Mr Grieve said that in the past few years "considerable over-spending has occurred" and that the Government had approved "orders for more aircraft than we need."

However, the minister of defence, Mr George Young, is "certainly not responsible" for the *Blackburn* aircraft, which are the only type of anti-submarine aircraft in the world.

A number of procurement decisions taken seven years ago had led to contracts being completed, even if the equipment had been cancelled under defence cuts since 1960.

"The timing of our report has been embarrassing," he said in an interview with the

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MPs denied chance to question £25m defence spending

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall Correspondent

BRITAIN is spending more than £25 million on maintaining defence attaches in 70 countries, but Parliament has been denied a copy of a report into their cost-effectiveness.

The posts include Bridge-town, Barbados, and Kingston, Jamaica, where our men are toiling to "promote the United Kingdom's wider security interests".

Labour's frontbench is furious that Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, has refused to place a copy of a report on the role of the military attaches in the House of Commons library. MPs have also been told that the cost of the residences of 126 attaches around the world is not included in the £25 million and cannot be supplied because "disproportionate cost" would be involved in providing the information.

Derek Fatchett, Labour defence spokesman, said: "It is not difficult to see the overall justification for military attaches, although I suspect one or two eyebrows will be raised over some of the more appealing locations. What really concerns me is that Parliament has had no opportunity to do its real job of making government accountable for this kind of expenditure."

The Ministry of Defence carried out an independent review of its attaches in July 1993, known as the Goddard study. However, Mr Fatchett

was told last week by Mr Soames that he could not see a copy "due to the classification of the report". Mr Fatchett said: "We cannot judge the efficiency of the service without this information. It cannot be right that MPs are being denied sight of the report and it is impossible to believe that all of the information is a matter of national security."

Military attaches overseas are appointed by the Ministry of Defence in consultation with the Foreign Secretary. In a written answer, Mr Soames described their function as "supporting the sale of British defence equipment and related services; aiding defence co-operation, including military assistance overseas, performing representational and liaison duties and providing advice to the head of mission and diplomatic staff".

However, according to the SIPRI Yearbook 1994, the definitive publication on arms sales, Britain sells arms or is licensed to sell arms to only 26 of the 70 countries where attaches are serving.

Among those countries where Britain maintains military representation but does not sell arms is Jamaica. However, a source said that British military interests in five countries, including Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and the Bahamas, were co-ordinated from Kingston. The source said that there was a

legitimate British interest in stability in the region because of the resident population from the Caribbean in Britain.

The 70 countries where Britain maintains military attaches include most of Europe and the Middle East. In Africa the MoD has attaches in Ghana, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Nigeria, South Africa and Morocco. In central and South America, attaches are posted to Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela, Guatemala and Mexico.

The largest delegation is in Washington where 17 MoD personnel are accredited as attaches.

The cost to the taxpayer in 1994-95 is estimated by the MoD to be £25.7 million, although this does not include accommodation costs, which are covered by the Foreign Office.

There has been a small decline over the past year in the attaché service, including support staff, from 362 to 321.

MI6 failed to act on Rhodesian coup order

By Michael Evans

MI6 failed to carry out an order to overthrow Ian Smith, the Prime Minister of Rhodesia, who had illegally declared his country's independence in 1965, according to intelligence disclosures.

The order came from Harold Wilson after all diplomatic attempts to persuade Mr Smith to stay in the Commonwealth had led to embarrassing failure. The Labour Prime Minister had already blamed MI6 for the lack of detailed intelligence about Mr Smith's intentions. MI6 reports from Rhodesia had predicted that Mr Smith would not unilaterally declare independence and head a government based on white minority rule.

Sir Dick White, then chief of MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service, passed on Mr Wilson's order to overthrow Mr Smith to Paul Paulson, MI6 controller for Africa and the Middle East. According to a new biography of Sir Dick, who died in 1993, based on unauthorised interviews with the former MI6 chief, the planning was then delegated to John da Silva, an intelligence officer who sympathised with Rhodesia's whites.

After three weeks, Mr Paulson reported back to Sir Dick that his officers could find no anti-Smith group in



Ian Smith meets Harold Wilson for talks in Salisbury in 1965, shortly before UDI

Salisbury to stage a counter-coup. Mr Smith's rebellion and Mr Wilson's failure to stop Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence "was an intelligence fiasco",

according to *The Perfect English Spy*, Sir Dick White and the Secret War 1935-90 by Tom Bower, due out later this month. Bower had privileged access to Sir Dick and to

many other retired MI6 and MI5 officers, despite government instructions to all former intelligence officers never to talk about secret operations. Sir Dick was angry that

Harold Wilson, now Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, had criticised MI6 for failing to warn of the UDI. Sir Dick blamed the Joint Intelligence Committee, the Cabinet Office organisation responsible for collating intelligence material and setting MI6's agenda.

Sir Dick criticised the Government for not producing a comprehensive policy on Rhodesia. The intelligence services, he argued, could provide information only if the Government explained its objective.

One serious weakness was that MI6 had made no attempt to recruit a mole inside Smith's Rhodesian Front. An MI6 officer had been sent to Salisbury in 1962 under cover as a High Commission diplomat. But three years later, advised to avoid risks, he had not penetrated Mr Smith's party. "That political objective had not been cleared by the Commonwealth Relations Office and was not entered in SIS's Red Book of targets," Bower said.

By 1965, when Mr Smith was about to declare UDI, Sir Dick had no information enabling him to warn Mr Wilson that the Rhodesian leader was deliberately misleading the British Government. Nor was there any intelligence that white Rhodesians supported the rebellion.

MoD 'embarrassed' by wasted millions

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

MILLIONS of pounds have been wasted by the Ministry of Defence on new equipment and facilities that are no longer needed after the end of the Cold War. Roger Freeman, the Defence Procurement Minister, admitted that the timing of some of the cancellations had been embarrassing.

Rejecting allegations that the MoD was a "ministry of waste", Mr Freeman said that in the past ten years controls over spending on equipment had improved dramatically. However, the ministry was suffering from the legacy of the Cold War, he said. A number of procurement decisions taken several years ago had led to contracts being completed, even though the equipment had been axed under defence cuts imposed since 1990.

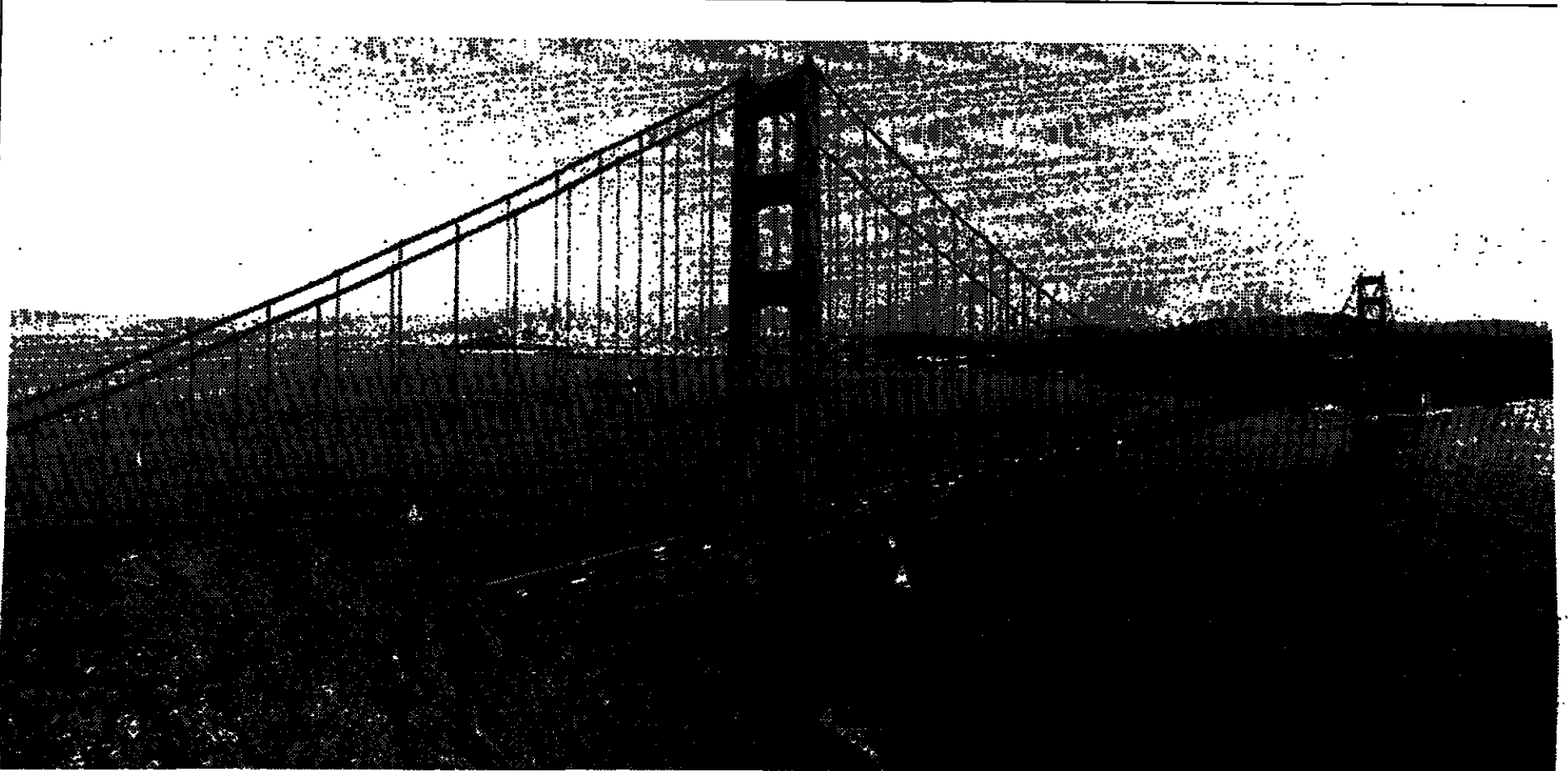
"The timing of completion has been embarrassing," he said in an interview with *The*

Times. Millions of pounds were spent on refitting two Leander-class frigates which were subsequently taken out of service as part of the overall plan to reduce the size of the Royal Navy's destroyer-frigate fleet to 35 vessels.

The ministry spent £25 million on refitting *HMS Sirius*, including providing the ship with an advanced towed array sonar system. A second frigate, *HMS Andromeda*, was also given a refit of about £20 million.

The refit of *HMS Sirius* was completed in May 1991. She was put up for sale but no foreign buyer has been found and the frigate is now on the "commercial list" which means she can be sold for scrap. *HMS Andromeda* is also up for sale.

Mr Freeman said the worst case of Cold War legacy was the much-publicised cancellation of the Royal Navy's four new Upholder-class diesel-electric submarines, built at a cost of about £900 million.



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Intellectual conservatism needs to adapt to make the most of new technologies, writes James P. Pinkerton

How Right must face the future

LAST year the Oxford academic John Gray published *The Undoing of Conservatism*, a deeply pessimistic monograph on the future of conservative ideas. I was reminded of similar works written in America — from Robert Nisbet's *The Twilight of Conservatism*, written two decades ago, to the most recent venture in conservative apocalypticism, *Why Intellectual Conservatism Died*, by Michael Lind.

Yet the gap between drawing-room forebodings and voting-booth results has never been wider: in view of the Republican sweep last November, the American electorate must not read much.

Last year Dr Gray wrote that "conservatism in Britain and elsewhere has arrived at an intellectual and political impasse". I would not presume to analyse the state of British conservatism; but I can report that, in America, the conservative critique of conservatism rests on two assertions: first, that the Right is composed of hypocrites and opportunists; second, that, as a result of those internal contradictions, the Republican Party is doomed.

As a veteran of four presidential campaigns and six years in the Reagan and Bush White Houses, I will not dispute the first assertion, except to add: compared to whom? Close up, the Right may look as flawed and repulsive as Swift's Brobdingnagians. But does the Left, under scrutiny, look better?

The second assertion is that the Republican Party is on the verge of a political murder-suicide, as the supporters of Patrick Robertson's cultural conservatism slay the free-market champions of Jack Kemp before they themselves bring down the temple.

But such is the nature of a two-party system: uneasy alliances between party factions that hate each other only slightly less than they hate the other party.

Let us turn to the real substance of Mr Gray's argument: that the Right is unprepared to deal with the devastation done to traditional structures by the pulverising forces of modernity. Two centuries ago, Edmund Burke railed against the "sophisters, oeconomists, and calculators". Today, have we finally reached the point where the glory of Europe is about to be extinguished forever?

Mr Gray fixes much of the blame on "unconstrained" markets and the "resultant dislocations of life in families and communities". That is a popular right-wing theme in America; the mission of so-called "cultural conservatives" includes school prayer, the preservation of the Confederate flag, and recently limits on immigration, all in the name of hearth and home. Mr Gray distances himself from the "atavistic" Right, but his most



At a time when many political thinkers argue that the conservative agenda of the 1980s has reached a dead-end, James P. Pinkerton, one of America's foremost conservative thinkers, is optimistic about the future of right-wing ideas. A champion of the "new paradigm" of government, he has argued that a shift of public attitudes, similar to that resulting from scientific breakthroughs, is taking place in Western democracies. Citizens are no longer prepared to pay high taxes. Voters want higher standards of public service at the lowest possible public cost. We need a new model of government, he says: pluralist, decentralised and entrepreneurial, rather than bureaucratic, centrally managed and highly regulated. His ideas have found favour among many Republicans and progressive Democrats and have attracted interest in the Conservative Party

specific policy prescription, opposition to free trade, specifically Gatt, is shared by the nationalist/isolationist Pat Buchanan wing of the GOP. Mr Buchanan, a self-described "America Firster", opposed Gatt on the same grounds as Mr Gray, writing last year that "free trade... dissolves the old bonds of loyalty, replacing them with new ties of economic interest".

The Buchanan-Gray critique plucks the mystic chords of collective memory. But let us suppose some sort of restrictive trade regime could be put in place that would insulate people from the gale of creative destructions. The price, as Mr Buchanan has conceded, would be slower economic growth. But might that economic slowdown turn into an actual reversal of fortune? The big beat of global commerce would

not slow just because America decided to stop playing. Sony, Samsung and cyber-technology are here to stay. As Americans put it, if you don't deal with reality, other people will. An American policy which contracted trade would cause a typhoon-like flight of capital. Nothing short of Albanian-style isolation can "protect" a country these days. Even the solace of poor-but-proud sovereignty would be undercut by the next stage of decline: emigration.

A more adaptive strategy is called for. Burke himself said that wise conservatism must shun the tides of change into traditional channels. Here are three possible ways for conservatism to meet the future.

First, we must bypass bureaucracy, understanding that Bismarckian government today is an essentially "conservative" force, one that is ill-adapted to the challenge of global competition. Dr Gray himself calls for school vouchers: in America such a plan would lead to the quick demo-

lition of a pillar of the status quo: the unionised local public school. Such de-monopolisation offers the only hope for the quantum improvements in skills that Americans will need to sustain their standard of living in the next century.

Second, we should use new ideas to solve old problems, such as changing the tax code

to connect the middle class to the poor. Progressive Democrats as well as Republicans are floating the idea of allowing taxpayers to take a 5 or 10 per cent tax credit — not just a deduction — for contributions to charity. As Rob Andrews, a Democratic Congressman, explains: "You'd be pumping a lot of money into private

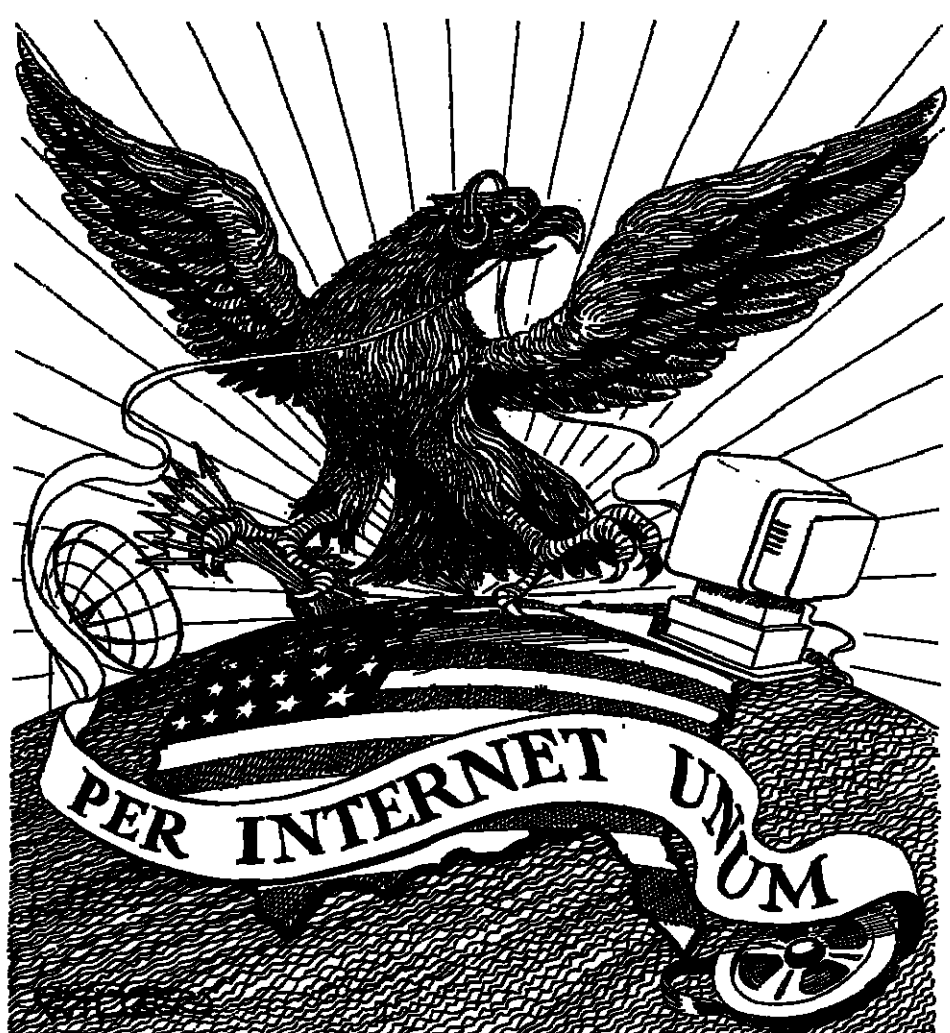
groups, and you'd be generating a lot more competition" for the bureaucratic social welfare establishment. "empowering people and creating a whole new market for problem-solving".

Third, we should recognise new communitarian forms emerging from new technology. There is no guarantee that radio talk shows and the Internet will create a post-modern virtual reality community. But we ought to make the most of those technologies, since we cannot go home again to the neighbourly village green. We have yet to imagine what new forms of affinity and fulfilment might some day develop in the electronic ether.

As Anglophones on both sides of the Atlantic seek to preserve their heritage, the focus should be on dynamic, growing civil societies, not dusty museum exhibits. Mr Gray is correct: conservatives must decide what to conserve. But, in this capital-cascading world, the wrong choices will destroy not only the Right, but our nations' futures.

James P. Pinkerton's book, *What Comes Next: The End of Big Government — and the New Paradigm Ahead*, will be published this autumn.

Leading article, page 19



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THE TIMES

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Can we trade globally and live locally?

A lecture by James Pinkerton

James Pinkerton, leader of the New Paradigm movement, is one of America's most innovative thinkers. In his lecture to be given in London on March 22, he will argue that, far from threatening communities, the social and economic changes brought about by the growth in markets and technology presents new opportunities for civic association.

The message of the New Paradigm movement — that government works only if it is re-invented to offer individual choice, empowerment of the poor and decentralisation — has been embraced by American politicians Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich. Pinkerton argues for nothing less than a new American revolution to preserve civic institutions that will offer the underclass a means of improvement while safeguarding a vibrant market economy.

His lecture, chaired by David Willetts, MP, will be given on Wednesday, March 22, at 7.30pm, at One Great George Street Conference Centre, Westminster, London SW1.

● Tickets, priced £10 (£7.50 for students), are available by completing the coupon below and sending it to: Joanne Oliver, Town House Publicity, 45 Islington Park Street, London N1 1QB

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Chief Rabbi hails renewal of Jewish community life

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

JUDAISM can provide a path between social fragmentation and extremist religious movements, Dr Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi, said last night. Dr Sacks said several synagogues that had been on the brink of closure a decade ago were now thriving centres of community life.

Dr Sacks, speaking at City University in London on the 125th anniversary of the United Synagogue, the foremost Anglo-Jewish Orthodox community with 66 synagogues, said the success of the United Synagogue showed that "it is possible, even in a secular age, to combine strong religious principle with reason, passion and compassion". He said: "We stand for a

Judaism uncompromising in its loyalty to Jewish faith and practice, and at the same time uncompromising in its welcome to every Jew."

Dr Sacks said: "We are concerned today with the erosion of families, communities and religious faith. The contemporary world is filled with the pressures of fragmentation, between a secular culture that has edited out the echoes of eternity in its restless pursuit of the present, and religious movements frightening in their extremism."

Such movements sought "to impose their truth on others" and denied the dignity of humanity as "the image and likeness of God". Dr Sacks said: "There is a path between the two, and it has been the classic task of Judaism to take it."

In his new book *Faith in the Future*, serialised in *The Times*, Dr Sacks addresses the fragmentation of culture and the breakdown of family and community life. He says the challenge for society is to provide a "map" of meaning to help children to chart their way through a chaotic world.

In his address last night, Dr Sacks tackled directly the problem of creating such a sense of community in the United Synagogue. Dr Sacks' concern in the Jewish "Decade

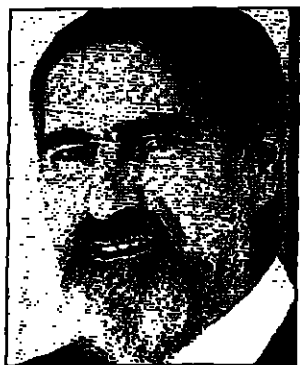
of Renewal" is to confront assimilation and secularisation which is depleting his community.

Under his Community Development Programme, many Orthodox synagogues have returned to the traditional model, common in earlier centuries, where they are centres where education, family and youth programmes — as well as worship — take place.

Dr Sacks said: "This is recreating the role of the synagogue as it was in the Middle Ages, when it was called 'the house of meeting'. A synagogue is the place where people can bring and share all their activities. In the United Synagogue, the growth in the sheer range of activities in synagogues in the last ten years has been phenomenal. I can think of three synagogues in the centre of London alone which ten years ago were on the brink of closure and which today are buzzing with activities."

He said he wished also to affirm that the Judaism he represented was "open and welcoming" to all members of the Jewish community.

There has been contention in the Jewish community over the independent conservative Masorti movement, with Dr Sacks at odds with Masorti over the status of Jewish law.



Sacks spoke of Judaism "open to every Jew"

Church 'should shun prejudice'

By OUR RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Church should refuse to exclude people on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, faith, culture or ethnicity, Desmond Tutu, Archbishop of Cape Town, said yesterday.

Preaching to 35 other archbishops and bishops, who represent 70 million Anglicans in 160 countries, Archbishop Tutu said: "Let us celebrate our diversity, opposing the xenophobia that is abroad, knocking down the walls that would keep out the stranger."

Speaking at a special service at St Martin-in-the-Fields, central London, the Archbishop said: "Let us go forth to embrace and love and care for

those whom some want to turn into lepers, people living with Aids; let ours be inclusive communities, welcoming and embracing."

The leadership of the Anglican communion is meeting at Windsor for retreat and a review of the most critical issues facing the Anglican Church worldwide.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, will use the meeting to raise the issue of how Anglicans can best respond to the often devastating situations faced by provinces such as Rwanda and the Sudan. After the service yesterday, Dr Carey

said: "This is a marvellous occasion for the Anglican communion — we only get the primates together once in a while. We have every province represented. I believe we are a dynamic growing communion."

However, he said that the Anglican Church worldwide was "very wounded and crucified". Referring to Rwanda and Sudan, he said: "We share the burdens and pain of these and other places. Where the Church is growing most, those are the places where it is most crucified."

Photograph, page 22



The last attempt to navigate the canal came to grief at Up Nately, four miles short of Basingstoke, in 1913

Bats stand in way of canal plan

By IAN MURRAY

LOCAL people are being asked this week to support an ambitious proposal by Basingstoke council to restore a canal that once flowed through the village of Old Basing and on to the Thames 37 miles away.

Brochures seeking public approval for the plan are going out to 60,000 householders in the Hampshire town. Residents will be asked if they support the £28 million scheme to restore the old harbour in the centre of the town, which is now covered by a bus station, and to link this to the Thames along the route of a canal that fell into disuse before the First World War.

"We see this as an opportunity to enhance the town, bring in visitors and increase the amount of money being spent here," Neil Cole, the project manager, said. "The idea is to improve both the local economy and the quality of life."

The plan is to create a large terminal with water-side restaurants and shops to attract tourists and trade into the town. The reopened canal would be a route for excursions and a centre for water holidays. The council aims to decide whether to go

ahead with the project at its meeting on May 18.

"We will proceed only if the public wants it and as when we can get the money," Mr Cole said. Basingstoke, a sprawling new town of concrete office blocks and dense housing estates, will ask for help from the Millennium Fund and hopes to attract money from private developers and the Heritage Fund.

"It would be an amenity in the spirit of the parks movement at the turn of the century which was concerned about the health of the nation," Mr Cole said.

However, bats, the M3 and the village of Old Basing present almost insurmountable problems to the completion of the final five-mile stretch of the canal into the town.

The bats are the second largest colony in Europe of the rare natterers species. They live in the 1,200-yard tunnel that carried the canal under Greywell Hill, to the east of Basingstoke.

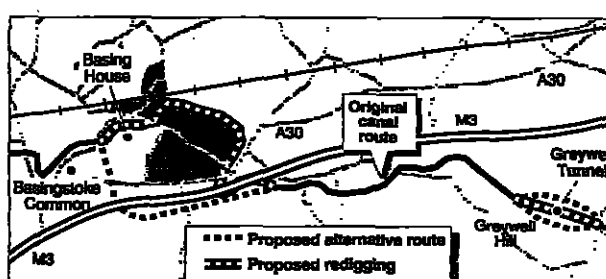
The tunnel partially collapsed in 1930 and the site is classified as one of outstanding natural importance because of the bats and cannot be touched. The only way to take the canal past the hill would be to dig a parallel tunnel or construct a system of blocks to hoist barges over the top. The M3,

the dried-up water course, Nick Sylvester paid £25,000 for one of them only 18 months ago. "The council is selling this as a fantastic idea, but it is just madness," he said. "Historically the canal kept drying up. It failed as a commercial waterway and it is crazy to destroy residential development in order to restore something that was no good in the first place."

Opened in 1794, the canal soon fell into disuse. Attempts to revitalise it failed and commercial traffic ceased in 1910. Since 1966 it has been jointly owned by Surrey and Hampshire County Councils.

The restoration for the eastern 32 miles was finished in 1991 and most of the route is designated as being of special scientific interest because of its rare aquatic plants. For much of the summer the water levels are too low for navigation, which has forced the council to sink a 1,000ft bore outside the town to see if water could be pumped to fill the canal and town basin if the project is approved.

"Historically the canal never held water," Mr Sylvester said. "The plans to restore it are no better."



which runs along the old canal bed for a short distance, is the next obstacle. The restored canal would either have to tunnel under it or be carried across it.

The biggest obstacle is Old Basing, the holder of the title of best-kept village in Hampshire, where 11 houses have been built on and around

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sex attacker claims four new victims

A man suspected of carrying out sex attacks on 13 women has struck four more times, police said yesterday. The latest assaults were reported by four women, aged between 18 and 25, who delayed telling police because they were so distressed.

The man also attacked eight schoolgirls in east Leeds and raped a 45-year-old woman. Detective Sergeant Ian Green, of Killingbeck CID, said the man was getting more daring. The wanted man, who began his attacks last month, is in his early twenties. 5ft 8ins, with collar-length ginger hair. He has worn a three-quarter length kaftan coat.

Cannabis haul

Four men have been charged with drugs offences after police seized £1 million worth of cannabis at Loughton, Essex. The men, aged from 17 to 52, will appear in court today.

Driver, 19, dies

A 19-year-old driver was killed when his car smashed into a bus shelter, seriously injuring two waiting people. Three other teenagers in the Ford Escort were also injured in the accident at Jarrow, Tyne and Wear, on Saturday night.

Emergency thief

A man dialled 999 from a house in Arundel, West Sussex, saying he had been poisoned, then stole the ambulance. He was stopped by police 90 minutes later and transferred to Brookwood psychiatric hospital.

Lorry hijack

A lorry driver was forced to travel along motorways in Surrey and Kent for three hours at gunpoint. The gunman, who had entered the cab at Leatherhead, finally left him on Saturday on the M25 without stealing anything.

Sinking feeling

An American bull snake called Mr Pushkin, which disappeared a year ago from a house in Cleveleys, Lancashire, was found under the kitchen sink of a house three doors away by a seven-year-old girl.



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Ashdown to base election campaign on school cuts

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

PADDY ASHDOWN fired the opening shot in the spring local election campaign yesterday by pledging to make education cuts "the poll tax of 1995". The Liberal Democrat leader accused the Tories of "making our children pay with their futures in order to save Tory skins with tax bribes at the next election", and said the cuts were "pure vandalism".

Speaking at the Liberal Democrats' spring conference in Scarborough, Mr Ashdown said the elections in April and May would be a "referendum on Britain's future" and urged voters to send "a great wall of protest" through the ballot boxes. He also used the speech to launch a scathing attack on Tony Blair, the Labour leader.

Mr Ashdown told Mr Blair that he was in danger of causing a catastrophe by going down the same "nightmare" route as President Clinton in America unless he modernised his content as well as the wrapping.

"What happened to the Clinton Administration ought to be an object lesson on how quickly the honeymoon of a hopeful new government can turn into the nightmare of a broken-backed one. It would be a catastrophe for Britain if the same were to happen here to a Labour government elected on fuzzy promises and public relations gloss," he said.

The grass roots Liberal Democrats have used their conference to urge Mr Ashdown "not to play footsie under the table" with the Labour Party. They wanted Mr Ashdown to attack Labour's "ugly corporatism" as much as the Tories obsession with tax, and Mr Ashdown obliged.

In one of the best-crafted speeches of his leadership, Mr Ashdown drew rapturous applause as he said: "You can't change Britain by ducking the issues or dodging the questions. Voters will not trust new Labour with power while they continue to act like old Labour. Even if others retreat in warm waffle and weasel words our role is to be the backbone of change in Britain; to be the guarantor of real sensible reform and renewal for the nation."

He said: "This country must invest in education for the

future because if you don't we won't have a future. These cuts are not skin deep, they are cut to the bone, meaning fewer teachers, larger classes and £50 less per primary school child."

The Liberal Democrats are confident about what they do best: winning seats in the spring local elections. Last week, the BBC political research unit predicted that the Liberal Democrats, who already have overall control of 40, will soon overtake the Tories in the number of councils held.

Last month the Tories were pushed into fourth place in by-elections and the Liberal Democrats beat Labour in Kingston upon Thames. They already hold 4,600 seats, up from 963 in 1979 and one in 12 of their members are councillors. Andrew Stunell, political secretary of the Association of Liberal Democrat Councils, warns that the results will not

be "stupendous" but is confident that the Liberal Democrats will take over a further 14 councils. On a national scale the grass roots

believe the party is flourishing under the onslaught of Mr Blair. Now that the Labour leader seems to have captured the centre Left, they are gloomy about becoming sidelined as the party of sandals and woolly ideas on the monarchy and pot smoking.

Mr Ashdown's answer, to be set up today, is the strategy and planning executive. This will be headed by Alan Leaman, who becomes the director of planning strategy.

Mr Leaman is determined that when it comes to the general election, people will not just stick to the Tory devil they know or take the plunge with Mr Blair. He does not want voters to view the Liberal Democrats merely as a moderating force on the wilder elements of Labour. He wants a positive vote.

"We have been through an exceptional political period which has allowed people to lose sight of the Liberal Democrats. But once people look at our solid achievements, they will see we are crucial to the next general election. We must find our audience and target our message, following a strategy of positive Liberal Democrat ideas," he said.



Paddy Ashdown: "The Tories are making our children pay with their futures"

Brown seeks to rally Left to reformed Clause 4

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

GORDON BROWN pledged Labour to the "goal of full employment" yesterday in an attempt to reassure trade unionists over the redrafting of Clause Four. His move followed last-minute efforts by union leaders to have the words "full employment" inserted into the final draft of Clause Four, expected to be approved by the National Executive Committee today.

Although their demand is not expected to be met, the Shadow Chancellor used his address to the Scottish Labour Party Conference in Inverness to allay any fears that Labour was turning its back on the unemployed. In a powerful speech which hinted at the new clause's wording, Mr Brown made clear that reducing unemployment would remain Labour's top priority. "Our belief in an economy run in the interests of all and not a few, and the goal of a full employment society require us to use every instrument of government to get people back into work."

Seeking to rally the party's Left, Mr Brown said Labour would implement an industry policy to boost manufactur-

ing, to abolish youth unemployment and to help small businesses. It would modernise the welfare state to allow people to move from benefits into work.

Mr Brown sought to reassure those who had helped Tony Blair win Friday's critical vote on Clause Four that they would not be betrayed, pledging to campaign against poverty and to defend public services. "We should not only implement the social chapter [of the Maastricht Treaty] but introduce legislation for a compulsory national minimum wage at a level that will bring decency and dignity to those in employment."

In a hint at the wording of the final draft of Clause Four, Mr Brown said that socialism was about "an economy run in the interests not of a privileged elite but of all of us". It was about "casting out poverty, banishing discrimination, conquering injustice, and an equitable distribution of wealth, power and opportunity. Rewards and income in the hands of the many and not just a few. Public services owned and accountable to the people of our country. Every-

one with the power to realise their potential to the full."

Mr Brown earned a standing ovation after promising to "renationalise the national health service" and to end tax relief on private health insurance. He also said that men and women should be equally represented in a Scottish Parliament. Last week Mr Blair expressed misgivings, in an interview, that 50-50 representation might not be a practical possibility.

The Shadow Chancellor pledged that a Labour Government would legislate for rights for part-time and full-time working women and introduce "new rights to training, to decent wages, to maternity leave, and to child care so that never again should women or men have to choose between the children they love and the jobs they need."

He also took the opportunity to attack the Scottish National Party, who look set to seize Perth and Kinross from the Tories at the forthcoming by-election, accusing them of "double dealing".

Clause 4 decision, page 1
Peter Riddell, page 18

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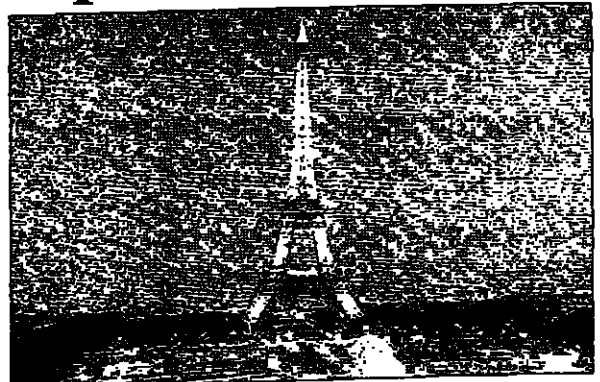
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Bungle over CIA director dismays White House

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SENIOR Republicans declared that White House bungling was undermining America's global stature after President Clinton was forced to withdraw his nomination of General Michael Carns for CIA director at the weekend.

"We have another serious undermining of US competency and credibility for the whole world to see," protested Arlen Specter, the Senate Intelligence Committee chairman, as even White House aides expressed dismay at yet another in a series of botched nominations.

Mr Clinton moved rapidly to limit the damage by nominating John Deutch, the Deputy Defence Secretary. Mr Deutch is known to have little enthusiasm for what is probably the Administration's least attractive high-level post given the CIA's present troubles. Mr Deutch refused the job before it was offered to General Carns. He only accepted to save the President's face, and after Mr Clinton promised him Cabinet rank and a central role in determining national security policy. Mr Clinton largely ignored the



Carns broke labour and immigration laws

being aired during his Senate confirmation hearings "kills any willingness on my part to proceed".

Elbino Runas was a friend of the family when the general commanded the Clark Air Force base in the Philippines in the 1980s. At Mr Runas's behest, the family brought him back to the United States, wrongly certifying that he was an employee. Mr Runas walked out on the family when General Carns refused to seek a visa extension in 1992, and he remains in America.

What staggered Republicans and Democrats alike was that General Carns told officials before he was nominated, but despite his sorry record with past nominees the White House failed to spot the danger until the Intelligence Committee and FBI began delving into the issue.

Mr Clinton's nominee for Surgeon General, a Nashville obstetrician named Henry Foster, is in trouble because asked if he had performed abortions. Other high-profile nominations that have collapsed because the White House failed to do its homework include Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood for the post of Attorney General, Lani Guinier for the Justice Department's top civil rights job, and Bobby Ray Inman for Defence Secretary.

General Carns's withdrawal is particularly serious as the CIA has been rudderless since Mr Woolsey resigned nearly three months ago and is in desperate need of strong leadership. It has failed to establish a clear post-Cold War role, was rocked by the Aldrich Ames spy scandal, and Congress wants to cut its size and budget.

Mr Deutch, 56, is a respected figure, and possesses the now-priceless advantage of having survived FBI background checks and Senate confirmation hearings barely two years ago before taking his Pentagon job. He was born in Belgium and is confirmed to be America's first foreign-born intelligence chief.

Leading article, page 19

Moscow seeks Nato non-aggression pact

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

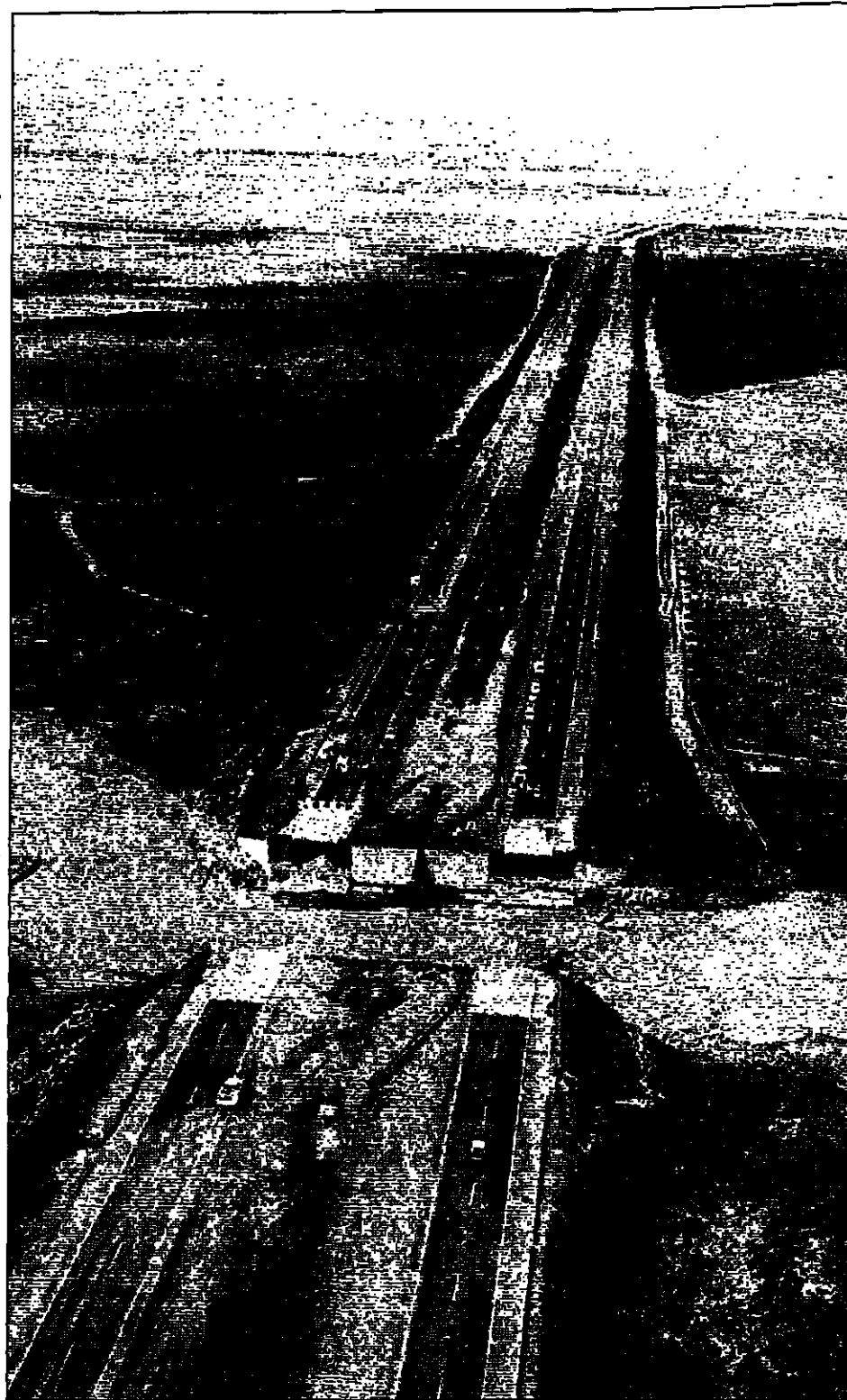
RUSSIAN officials are proposing that Nato should offer Moscow a non-aggression pact in what the Clinton Administration sees as a softening in Russia's previously implacable opposition to Nato's eastwards expansion.

Georgi Mamedov, Russia's deputy Foreign Minister, discussed the idea in recent talks in Washington with Strobe Talbott, the deputy Secretary of State, and it will head the agenda of a two-day meeting this month between Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, and Andrei Kozyrev, his Russian counterpart.

Yuli Vorontsov, Russia's Ambassador to Washington, told *The Washington Post* that Moscow wanted "guarantees that Nato is not directed against us".

American officials are encouraged that Russian officials are at least prepared to discuss the circumstances of Nato's expansion. "The Russians are beginning to accept the notion of Nato expansion and that they cannot stop it," one said. "They are looking at ways to shape the process, and that is good news."

The nature of any non-aggression pact is unclear and would have to be worked out not only with Moscow, but also with all 16 members of the alliance. The Administration is said to want something less than a formal treaty.



A 100-ft span of Interstate 5 which collapsed, sending cars into floodwaters

Eight killed as violent storms flood California

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

AT LEAST eight people died and the main artery between Los Angeles and San Francisco was severed by floods and a collapsed bridge at the weekend as violent storms immobilised much of California for the second time this year.

Thirty-eight counties were declared emergency areas after being hit by a vast series of storms which submerged the vineyards of Napa Valley and a 200-mile section of the Interstate 5 highway, then moved south into the Los Angeles area on Saturday.

Several cars plunged off the highway into the swollen El Pasajero creek, 50 miles east of Fresno, when floodwaters tore away a concrete span 100ft long. A spokesman for the state transport authority said it would take at least a month to repair the bridge.

Highway Patrol planes and helicopters had to call off a search for five passengers from one car, missing presumed dead, as light faded on Saturday. One survivor clung to a treetop until rescued.

Fifteen inches of rain fell on Saturday alone on the town of Cambria, on the central California coast, while elsewhere hundreds of homes were evacuated and trees were felled by winds gusting at up to 130mph.

Two disorientated cross-country skiers died near the ski resort of Heavenly Valley in the Sierra Nevada, where instead of rain, more than 3ft of new snow was reported.

Mudslides buried 12 homes and damaged more than 70 in Malibu, the coastal retreat of film stars and surfers west of Los Angeles. Residents cut off from the outside world by

debris strewn chest-high across the Pacific Coast Highway, said the mudslides were the worst since the 1950s. One woman was forced to escape from her three-storey house through a roof window.

The Golden State has already endured an unusually grey and sudden winter, with yet more storms forecast, and complex theories being offered to account for them. One attributes the increased precipitation to global warming and its impact on the Pacific Ocean.

Warmer ocean temperatures in tropical latitudes are said to be behind the El Niño effect, a powerful moist wind which scientists thank for this year's record snowfall in the Sierra Nevada.

After a seven-year drought, hydrologists employed to distribute Sierra meltwater between California's Central Valley, where most of America's vegetables are grown, and the even thirstier Los Angeles basin, are intensely grateful to El Niño for snow which in places is more than 20ft deep.

At lower altitudes, however, many mountainsides are saturated and unstable, bringing the risk of serious landslides. Nine homes were destroyed when a bluff gave way above the village of La Conchita, north of Los Angeles, last week. All but 60 of the village's 700 residents have since been evacuated.

Flammable sagebrush is expected to grow faster and more plentiful than usual on southern California's hills this year, replenishing fuel supplies for nature's next face-off with those who dare to live there — the autumn bushfire season.

Guest on blind date show shoots secret admirer

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN television is gripped by a frenzy of soul-searching after a blind date on a popular talk show ended with a man killing his admirer — because he was another man.

Jonathan Schmitz, 24, agreed to appear on the syndicated *Jenny Jones Show* in a segment called Secret Admirers in which the guest is con-

fronted by an acquaintance who has a crush on him. After being briefed by production assistants, Mr Schmitz expected his secret fan to be a woman. When he walked out in front of the studio audience, however, he was introduced to Scott Amedure, 32, a homosexual and TV talk-show fanatic who lived near him in Orion, Michigan. The show was about men who have crushes on other men. A convinced heterosexual, Mr Schmitz was

repelled by Mr Amedure's affections, but went through with the taping because he did not know if he had the right to pull out. When he found an unsigned love letter stuck to his front door several days later, however, he decided to take revenge. Mr Schmitz bought a shotgun and ammunition, went to Mr Amedure's home and shot him twice in the chest before calling the police to surrender. He is now charged with first-degree murder, for which he

could receive life imprisonment without parole.

The killing marked a new low even for the tawdry fare of America's increasingly tabloid television. *Television* magazine, the show's sponsors, denied that production staff had tricked Mr Schmitz into participating and insisted that he was warned that his secret admirer could be of either sex. The firm agreed not to air the segment in question.

Burundi murder raises tension

BY SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

BUJUMBURA, the capital of Burundi, was tense yesterday after the weekend assassination of Ernest Kabushemeye, the Energy and Mines Minister. Sporadic gunfire and grenade explosions echoed earlier across the city's ethnically divided slums.

Mr Kabushemeye, a member of the Hutu majority tribe, was shot outside a shop in the capital on Saturday, after a week in which at least 29 Hutus were killed in clashes with the Tutsi-dominated army and other civilians. Last night police held two suspects, but Gabriel Sinarinda, the Interior Minister, was unable to pinpoint any motive. Antoine Nduwayo, the Prime Minister, condemned the killing and urged the population to remain calm.

Local people reported that the city reverberated to the sound of gunfire after Tutsi youths had gathered on street corners and set up roadblocks. In the past a signal for violence in Burundi, where up to 100,000 people from both ethnic groups were killed in October 1993.

Diplomats said that they feared the stage was being set for a confrontation between the Tutsi-dominated army and the coalition Government of nine Hutu parties and three representing Tutsi interests. But they insisted that the country appeared unlikely to be engulfed in the sort of genocide which overwhelmed Rwanda last year, when a million Tutsi and Hutu moderates were killed.

Burundi has been affected by ethnic killings particularly in the northeast, where Rwandan Hutu extremists living as refugees in Zaire have joined forces with their Burundi counterparts for cross-border attacks on the Tutsi. In the northwest, Rwandan Hutus, also living on foreign aid in Tanzania, have used similar tactics. The Burundi army has carried out ethnically-based massacres of Hutu in the same regions.

China's Iron Lady secures trade concession from US

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

CHINA and the United States, following arduous negotiations, yesterday reached an agreement on a number of trade issues that are likely to lessen tensions between the two countries.

The most controversial concerned China's quick entry to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the business organisation that is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Wu Yi, China's Minister of Foreign Trade, is the country's most powerful woman and a formidable adversary, as Mickey Kantor, the American trade representative, discovered in signing an agreement with her on protection of intellectual property rights here.

The 57-year-old former vice-mayor of Peking, a small single woman who wore black for the signing ceremony, frostily told Mr Kantor that the United States had not lived up to its earlier commitment to support China's entry into the WTO. By yesterday, she had her way, and America agreed to support China's entry.

After their meeting yesterday, Mr Kantor said negotiations into China's entry would take into account the country's developing country status.

American trade officials say that in some trade areas, such as electronics, China is clearly not a developing country but in other areas it is. Under world trade rules, developing countries have greater scope for protecting developing industries.

For its part, Peking agreed to hold talks that could lead to wider access to China's markets for American agricultural products, particularly citrus

fruit and wheat, and telecommunications equipment. Mr Kantor is to meet President Jiang Zemin today.

Despite her reputation for toughness, Miss Wu is no stranger to romance. A few years ago, according to Peking gossip, she was wooed and proposed to by the then President, Yang Shangkun, who afterwards fell from grace in a purge inspired by Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader.

The well-groomed Miss Wu is somewhat austere, but she has an engaging smile. Her press conference at the weekend attracted at least 250 Chinese reporters and photographers and foreign correspondents, who mostly have to endure male party apparatchiks, and projected a certain charm.

She is driven to and from her ministry in a European-made car assembled in China, which strangely bears blue foreign registration plates.

Like a Chinese Madonna — the American singer who is an idol to many of China's urban youth — she is often stopped and asked for her autograph, which she does without demur. Whether Mr Kantor asked for it, is a moot point.



Wu: steely adversary with a big following

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THE TIMES MARCH 13 1995

Alan Jackson

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on the road
West End

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Britain's

wartime

FOR A Noel Coward musical

you expect to see the stage

with clusters of boys and girls

who will eventually be

through decorously, first

and dance. But when he

a play he was sensibly

normal with the past and

thus the most remarkable

feature of his first

play, produced in 1911,

only rarely revived, is

the astonishing number of

he decided to use.

In the 15 minutes before

play begins 30 people

able in the saloon, part of

Pinbury pub early in 1941

theatrical couple in evening

tables are occupied with

slipping mild & bitter

customers lean through the

window from the public. And

before long the number of

will climb to 27.

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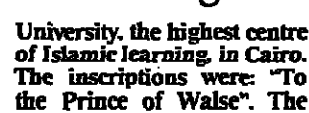
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A NEW
LIFE
HOME

FROM ARTHUR LEATHLEY IN JERUSALEM

But London maintains that because Bethlehem is under occupation, it would be politically disastrous if Mrs Major was seen to be touring the famous religious sites under Israeli guns. In recent years, there has been a Christian exodus from Bethlehem which has become a hotbed of Islamic fundamentalism.

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

With Jerusalem's sunny streets filled with large Union flags, there are plenty of manifestations of the new warmth in ties which suffered a heavy blow as recently as 1988, when David Mellor, then Junior Foreign Office Minister, rebuked an Israeli army officer in the occupied Gaza Strip.



gifts were in appreciation of a speech he delivered at Oxford University in 1993, encouraging reconciliation between Christian and Muslims. He is in Egypt for a five-day visit, his first since 1981. On arrival, he had dinner with President Mubarak. (Reuters)

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN
IN JOHANNESBURG

Mrs Mandela confided that the past three weeks had been "the most traumatic period of my entire political life."

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

The Iraqi people under crippling trade sanctions: These are expected to be renewed again today by the United Nations Security Council.

The Saddam Tower, set in a fashionable district of Baghdad, was built on the site of an earlier project flattened by allied bombing in the first days of the Gulf War. "With the reconstruction of Saddam Tower the Iraqis have today revived their glories of reconstructing the Tower of Babel," said Ahmed Ismael, the director of the company that built the tower, which will serve as

**FROM RAY KENNEDY
IN JOHANNESBURG**

The man is said to have claimed that he was recruited originally by the AWB and was then approached to train members of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party of Mangosuthu Buthelezi living in hostels on the East Rand.

Whitefriars Street, EC8 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Microprint offer-to-offer, intrinsic not restituted. IAS at 18.2.95.

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THE SUMMARY

- The eradication of poverty
- The need to reduce the burden of debt and the obligations of developing countries using various sources including foreign aid and cancellation. Also, the least-developed countries are singled out for special attention
- Programs to develop institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to help restructure the economies of developing countries and to take social factors into account to avoid a crisis
- Overall, development should be improved and the world should be more united

India pol shock for Congress

Delhi: Farmers have burnt 100 tonnes of cotton, polyester and higher quality wool garments in protest against economic liberalisation, the 15th day of nearly 40 days of population protests against poverty.

home: The Italian
Party, the former
Democrat, is expected
place it under Bion-
dino one this week and
verio an electoral
proposed with Sal-
oni, the media man
Gianfranco Fini, the
Fascist leader, official
Signor Buttiglione's de-
the two right-wing parties
rejected by three other parties
vowed to resign. If the party
failed to back him.

Spain, called yesterday for Canada to release a Spanish fishing boat detained in international waters off Newfoundland. He told reporters at the UN social summit in Copenhagen that Spain had the support of other EU members over the issue. (Reuters)

legitimate baby son to an ex-convict for a reputed sum of £10,000 (£19,000), new reports from Calabria reported L'ESP.

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Third World goes unheard at costly UN social summit

FROM EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, IN COPENHAGEN

LEADERS of the world's most impoverished countries have, in effect, been sidelined at the United Nations summit staged to help the poor. Unable even to rent telephones, they could not take part in the crucial lobbying central to a successful summit.

A third of the 160 delegations to the Summit for Social Development had no telephone at the Bella Centre conference site, leaving them out of touch. Charity, press and interest groups found it almost impossible to contact people from the poorest countries and hear the views of the very people the gathering was supposed to help. Although every leader was given seven

minutes to speak in the main conference hall, countless contacts and meetings were held around the edges of the world's biggest summit — and countless mobile phones helped the richer nations to stay in touch.

A UN trust fund of £1.25 million was established to help the poorest delegates and everyone was allocated a free office, table and eight chairs. But no help was given towards phone costs, while a message system was "not very efficient", a UN aide said.

The leaders of the most impoverished nations leave Copenhagen today knowing that money talks, that many noble words have been spoken

during the past week, but few concrete promises made.

The 118 leaders who attended have signed no document. Instead, they have agreed "by consensus" to adopt a 90-page declaration. This encourages better use of aid, recognises the need for debt relief, but makes no binding commitments. Notable concrete help came from Austria and Denmark: each wrote off \$100 million (£63 million) in debt to developing countries.

Denmark, which footed the estimated \$30 million bill for the summit, thinks it will none the less make \$35 million in extra earnings from hotels and other businesses. The Danes had anticipated making more, but the delegates were poorer than expected.

Some non-governmental organisation officials found the cost of living in Copenhagen so high that they distributed protest leaflets at the summit, complaining that they were "forced to eat from dustbins". An Indian, for instance, would have to work ten hours to earn enough to buy one Danish beer.

The two-day meeting of world leaders at the weekend followed five days of heated wrangling by national delegations about the final text of the declaration. It also provided President Mitterrand of France with his last big international forum before he steps down in May. Mitterrand used the summit to launch a



President Castro of Cuba, in a rare Western suit, chats to Queen Margrethe of Denmark at a dinner she hosted for heads of UN delegations

THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE

THE communique outlines the following commitments:

- The eradication of poverty.
- The need to cut the debt burden of developing nations, using various resources including debt relief and cancellation. Africa and the least-developed countries are singled out for help here.
- Programmes drawn up by institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, designed to restructure the economies of developing countries, should take social factors more into account to avoid disruption.
- Overall development aid should be increased, particu-

larly for spending in areas of social policy. New financial resources should be found to fund this.

□ Countries are encouraged to adopt the so-called "20/20" proposal, under which 20 per cent of development aid would be allocated to basic social programmes in return for the country receiving this aid would commit itself to spending 20 per cent of its national budget on social needs.

□ Countries agree to promote full employment, equality between men and women, universal access to education, decent health care and to protect workers' rights.

soothing attack on "jungle" market laws. "Are we really going to let the world become a global market without any laws other than those of the jungle, with no purpose other than the maximum gain, maximum profit, in the minimum time?" he asked.

Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Overseas Development Minister, meanwhile

shrugged off criticism that she and not John Major had represented Britain. She also found herself embroiled in a row with Oxfam, which said her speech calling for more free trade "bordered on the obscene". Patricia Feeney, Oxfam's policy adviser, said Lady Chalker's speech was a "quite shameful and jaw-dropping piece of work which has

damaged Britain's standing as a major UN player. We didn't even get a symbolic gesture from her of a promise to dig a few more wells". Lady Chalker responded: "Oxfam is being very silly — one really has to make reason triumph over ambition."

Security was predictably tight at the gathering of leaders grouping President

Mandela of South Africa — whose hug for Lady Chalker "brought a lump to my throat" — with China's Li Peng, and American Vice-President Al Gore with President Castro of Cuba.

The security meant, however, that peaceful demonstrations were banished to a barren patch of boggy land. Two protesters against the

war in Chechnya have kept a lonely vigil on the far side of a four-lane motorway, out of sight of the summit delegates.

Though many, including Oxfam, say that the summit was useful for setting future aims, the fact is that not one person in the developing world is likely to feel any concrete benefit from the summit for years, if ever.

WORLD SUMMARY

India poll shock for Congress

Delhi: Hindu nationalists have humiliated India's governing Congress party in important state elections (Christopher Thomas writes). The vote amounts to a rejection of economic reforms, which have hurt the 350 million Indians, nearly 40 per cent of the population, who live in poverty.

Shiv Sena, an extremist organisation blamed for riots in which hundreds have died, made impressive gains along with its electoral ally, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Independent candidates now hold the balance of power in Maharashtra state, a traditional Congress stronghold.

Italian party vetoes pact

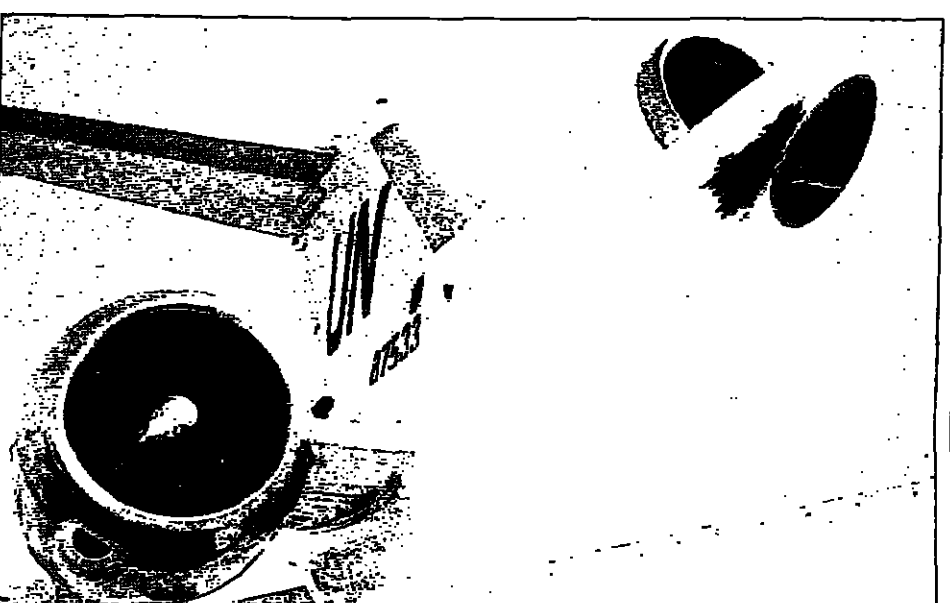
Rome: The Italian Popular Party, the former Christian Democrats, is expected to replace its leader Rocco Buttiglione this week after its council vetoed an electoral pact he had proposed with Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon, and Gianfranco Fini, the "post-Fascist" leader, officials said. Signor Buttiglione's deal with the two right-wing parties was rejected by three votes. He had vowed to resign if the party failed to back him.

Spain calls for boat's release

Copenhagen: Felipe González, the Prime Minister of Spain, called yesterday for Canada to release a Spanish fishing boat detained in disputed waters off Newfoundland. He told reporters at the UN social summit in Copenhagen that Spain had the full support of other EU members over the issue. (Reuters)

Dentist 'sold' his illegitimate son

Palmi: A high society Italian dentist, trying to conceal an affair with a student, sold their illegitimate baby son to an ex-convict for a reputed sum of \$30,000 (£19,000), newspapers in Calabria reported. (AFP)



Yasushi Akashi's plane, holed behind a porthole by gunfire in Sarajevo

UN peacekeeping troops win reprieve in Croatia

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, AND JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

PRESIDENT Tudjman of Croatia yesterday seemed to relent in his edict that United Nations troops must leave his republic, but left the role and composition of future peacekeeping forces in doubt.

Dr Tudjman had given the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) notice to quit last year, saying he would not renew its three-month mandate when it expires at the end of this month. After international outrage and alarm, the Croatian leader said yesterday that the 12,000 UN troops could stay until they are replaced by a smaller force of about 5,000.

However, it is not known where the new peacekeepers will come from or how they will operate. A Croatian source said that they would not be allowed to wear the traditional UN peacekeepers' blue berets.

Dr Tudjman, who is attending the UN social summit in Denmark, threw down the gauntlet to the UN last autumn after accusing it of not doing enough to disarm rebel Serbs in Croatia. The prospect of a UN withdrawal has caused deep pessimism in the international community, which has been bracing itself for a new war in Croatia, as well as a vicious spring offensive in Bosnia.

Dr Tudjman knows, however, that the departure of all peacekeeping troops would

have dealt a severe blow to the Croatian economy, reeling from the loss of tourist earnings brought about by the upheaval when the former Yugoslavia disintegrated.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday welcomed Croatia's statement that it would allow UN troops to remain on its soil. "This paves the way for an effective UN force to continue keeping the peace in Croatia. Such a force is vital to the stability of Croatia and the region."

In Sarajevo yesterday, the

that Mr Tudjman had hoped would replace UN peacekeepers, his gamble appears likely to pay off. The deal mediated by the United States would have some UN troops redeployed along Croatia's borders with Bosnia and Serbia, effectively cutting off the 27 per cent of the country occupied by Serbs from military aid.

Mr Tudjman and Al Gore, the American Vice-President, announced the new deal which has yet to be discussed at the UN after meeting at the social summit in Copenhagen.

"This is very good news... I consider this a major step away from war and towards peace," Mr Gore said. He admitted, however: "Our work is far from done, difficult issues remain to be negotiated. We decided that we must find a way to give diplomacy some breathing space."

Croatia's rebel Serbs could still try to block any redeployment of UN troops. They have said they will not accept any changes in the mandate defining the peacekeeping mission.

The UN force was installed as a buffer between Croatian Government troops and the rebel Serbs in 1992, after a war that killed 10,000 people.

"Croatia only wanted to speed up the solution of the problem of the occupied parts of Croatia," Dr Tudjman said, referring to the Serb-held Krajina region, which covers about a third of the republic.

Bribe case set to seal future of Tapie

FROM ADAMS SAGE IN PARIS

BERNARD TAPIE, the French tycoon, will today be tried for match-rigging in a case that is likely to expose the corruption poisoning professional football in France and Europe. The prosecution in the northern town of Valenciennes will claim that his club, Olympic Marseilles, became involved in a bribery scandal shortly before its European Cup final with AC Milan in May 1993.

For M Tapie, a left-wing businessman, the hearing is the latest in a line of legal difficulties that has left him bankrupt and ineligible for public office. If he is found guilty in Valenciennes, where he is standing alongside five other defendants, he risks a prison sentence that would probably be the final nail in his lingering ambition to become Mayor of Marseilles.

M Tapie said last week he was awaiting the chance to "lay bare all the lies and false declarations that have led a large part of French public authorities to condemn us".

However, M Tapie is not the only player in a saga that gripped France for much of 1993, dominating the news with its highly public rows. Behind him, Olympic Marseilles and the French soccer establishment will also be on trial. The club is accused of attempting to bribe members of the Valenciennes side against whom it played in a French championship match days before the encounter with AC Milan.



Tapie denies link to match-rigging scandal

British envoy begins to lobby for 'Maastricht II'

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE European Union's conference to redesign the Maastricht Treaty, although not due to start until next year, effectively begins this summer and may well turn into one of the longest negotiating marathons in Europe's post-war history.

On the first weekend in June, 15 EU Foreign Ministers will descend on the Italian town of Messina, to mark the fortieth anniversary of the first negotiations that led to the creation of the six-nation EEC. They will take with them the 18 men and women who make up the "reflection group" appointed to prepare the agenda for the treaty conference itself. The group begins work on what has already become known as "Maastricht II" that weekend.

EU Governments have convened teams of experts before to meet once a fortnight and produce a report in time for the EU's summit in Madrid in December. Most Governments now expect the group to

produce a set of detailed options and perhaps a draft text for a new treaty. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, has made recent visits to Sweden and Denmark and is to visit France soon.

Mr Davis faces a daunting agenda written into the last treaty. Maastricht lays down that the 1996 conference will discuss expanding EU powers in energy, civil protection and tourism, discuss the powers of the European Parliament, a possible European defence policy, and suggestions that inter-governmental decisions on foreign policy and immigration should involve the European Commission, Court and Parliament.

Two MEPs will sit at the table for the first time: they will be required to report progress to the European Parliament. Carlos Westendorp, the group's Spanish chairman, would like the group to meet once a fortnight and produce a report in time for the EU's summit in Madrid in December. Most Governments now expect the group to

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Election clamour grows as González support slides

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN SEGOVIA

SPANIARDS want an immediate general election, according to an opinion poll published in a leading Spanish newspaper yesterday. Another poll suggests that the main conservative opposition, the Popular Party (PP), will inflict the largest-ever defeat on the disgraced Socialist Government, in power for 12 years, in regional elections to be held on May 28.

With a general election not due until 1997, the minority government of Felipe González, the Prime Minister, is still clinging to power thanks to the support in the Cortes of the Catalan nationalist coalition led by Jordi Pujol, the Catalan President. But during a recent private visit to Britain, Señor Pujol admitted that his position is becoming tenuous.

Yesterday's polls showed that his party is also losing support as electoral battles loom in Barcelona in May, and the Catalan regional elec-

tions in the autumn. Señor Pujol was voted the least popular party leader in *El País*, which also found he has lost almost half his support since the last national elections in 1993.

The poll in *El País* found that 41 per cent of Spaniards want a general election now. 11 per cent would prefer it after Spain's presidency of the European Union in the second half of this year and 50 per

cent say the political situation would improve if Señor González resigned.

El Mundo predicts that PP would win 41 per cent or 170 of the 350 seats if a general election were held now. In regional elections to be held in 13 of 17 autonomous communities on May 28, the PP is predicted to gain more votes than the Socialists with an absolute majority forecast in five regions.

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Vatican orders cover-up for Adam and Eve

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ROMAN art lovers were incredulous yesterday after Vatican officials, in an unusual act of censorship, ordered that a sheet be tied around a statue near St Peter's Square depicting a naked Adam and Eve embracing.

Rome newspapers said the covering of the lifelike bronze statue in the courtyard of an art gallery in the Via del Mascherino, a stone's throw from St

Peter's Basilica, recalled the spirit of the Counter-Reformation and in particular the censorship in 1564 of Michelangelo's fresco, the *Last Judgment*, in the Sistine Chapel, when loincloths were painted over the private parts of pictures of saints. The statue was ordered covered at the behest of Archbishop Renato Martino, the permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations in New York, whose Rome flat is in the same building as the Athens gallery, which rents its premises from a religious order, accord-

ing to *Il Messaggero* and *La Repubblica* newspapers.

A huge sheet was wrapped over the statue and fastened with rope and cellophane leaving only the heads showing. The sculptress, Igina Colabucci Balla, complained that her work "has been tied up ignominiously like a salami. If it was something obscene or pornographic one could understand it. But this is incredible. The bodies of the two lovers are very modest and their intimate parts do not exist."

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■ DANCE

A legend comes to Woking: America's hottest choreographer, Mark Morris, begins his British tour
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



■ FILM

The feminist slant on Louisa M. Alcott? *Little Women* comes to the screen in a provocative new version
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ BOOKS

A rant against modern Tories forms the basis of Alastair McAlpine's *Letters to a Young Politician*
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday



■ POP

Kris Kristofferson — songwriter, singer, actor and Rhodes Scholar — cranks up the country sounds in Clapham
GIG: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO
FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Hoofing their way to the top

Alan Jackson steps out with the new generation of song and dance hopefuls on the road to a West End musical

Your mother was a Mrs Worthington figure and saw her pudgy-limbed angel as the next Bonnie Langford or Gary Wilmot. Before you could walk, you were enrolled at the ritziest dance school in your particular corner of far-flung suburbia. As soon as you could talk, you were learning show tunes phonetically from old Elaine Paige and Michael Crawford LPs. Now, 15 years later, and with your head and heart full of dreams, you snatch the latest issue of *The Stage* from the news vendor's hand and rush to the classified ad section. Heart pounding, you search for the job that will bring you glamour, excitement, that crucial big break.

And what do you find? "Wanted! Topless Dancers and Male Strippers for American-style Go-Go Bar!" or "It's Showtime at Butlin's!" or "Erotic Ladies required for Club Work in Belgium". Not quite what you, let alone your mother, had in mind when she waved you off from Acacia Avenue, teary-eyed in the passenger seat of your dad's Vauxhall Nova, but en route to a future in London's glimmering West End. Well, whar's the problem, listings junkies might ask? After all, aren't the capital's theatres awash with song-and-dance productions? Look, there's *Grease* and *Cats* and *Crazy For You* and *She Loves Me* and *Oliver!* and...yes, yes, all right!

There are many, it's true, and another opens tonight: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, based on the music of Fats Waller and newly transferred to the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, from the Tricycle, NW6. But though this means work aplenty for the very best young actors, singers and dancers, it has also upped the ante by a percentage index-linked to Cedric Brown's salary. It is no longer good enough to be great at just one of those disciplines. Being better than great at any two won't get you far either, it seems. "You need to pose what the Americans call the Triple Threat," says Dawn Hope, one of the female leads in *Ain't Misbehavin'*. "You've got to excel at all three. It's the only way to keep in work."

It is a view shared by Gaynor Sheward, who represents trainee performers at London's Italia Conti



The bright young things of *Ain't Misbehavin'* at London's Tricycle Theatre: in order to get a job in a musical these days you need to excel at acting, dancing and singing

Academy of Theatre Arts. "It's an evermore overcrowded profession and you need to be able to do everything — and to a very high standard," she says. "Given the current crop of shows, you can add juggling, rollerskating, and good-natured know-how to the list too. The individual who can do the most is the one who'll be most successful."

Which is threatening indeed to those who merely thesp, warble or hoof it a bit: such single or double-skilled hopefuls stand little or no chance of making it in the musical theatre of 1990s London and may well be forced to go-go to Butlin's, Belgium or beyond. Yet, according to Arlene Phillips, doyenne of British stage choreographers, an inadequate educational grants system, coupled with the relative complacency of our young performers when compared with their American and, increasingly, Australian counterparts, means there is just not

enough good Triple Threat material to go around.

Better training is crucial, she says. Here, most wannabes leave the classroom at 16, study at a specialist college for two, maybe three years, but all too often run out of money before completing their course or are seduced away by the first sniff of work on a cruise liner. As such, they enter the jobs field undertrained. "But in America, most performers stay in school until 18, then go on to a four-year course at one of the many universities turning out unbelievably talented people. By the time they're out there ready to work, not only are they more mature, but they're also trained to an incredible standard."

Phillips laughs when I ask what magical extra "something" she is looking for when casting. "I wish I'd been at an audition where there were so many people who could act, sing and dance so well that you

looked for something more. Here, there are so few who can do all three that the demand for them is phenomenal. They can work in just about whatever show they choose. And because they're so rare, they expect to be principals, whereas in America such performers are happy to find a place in the chorus."

Underlining her point is the fact that the two male leads in the *Ain't Misbehavin'* cast are imports. As a child growing up in Denver, Colorado, Sean Palmer was dubbed "the black Baryshnikov" by teachers, but he has never wanted to be known just as a dancer. He spent eight years in a respected children's choir, but would not thank you for calling him a singer. Now 22, he has recently graduated from a Pittsburgh university known for the excellence of its multidiscipline performing arts school. Since then,

though, he has spent time waiting on tables in New York restaurants. "You have to repair and build your pride and self-respect constantly, otherwise they'd disappear," he says of 57 rejections from 60 recent auditions. "Even if you get the job, you're so aware of the competition that you doubt you're good enough. I try and remember, though, that if someone doesn't like me, it's only an opinion — and there's more than one opinion." Another crucial transatlantic difference, judges Phillips. "Americans can see themselves as products. They think, 'Okay, this time I'm not the right person in the right place, but I'll fight on.' The British over-sensitivity makes it emotionally much harder to hear the word 'No'."

As Palmer and the rest of the *Ain't...* crew go through their paces at a photocall, I take a seat in the stalls next to Alison Pollard, 26. Just out of the *Les Mis* cast, she is

working as the Lyric show's dance captain, charged with keeping the routines knife-sharp, no matter how long the run. She speaks of the misery of waiting alongside hundreds of others for the two-minute opportunity to impress those with the power to hire: of the scores of letters and phone calls necessary, to persuade that godsend, an agent, to come and see you in a show, never mind take you on their books.

Of course, she smiles when she recounts the success stories: Darren Day, plucked from provincial panto-land and asked to play Lloyd Webber's Joseph; Nicola Dawn, picked from among thousands at an open audition and made Lola in Manilow's *Copacabana*. But all this talk of the Triple Threat has unsettled me. Unless the next Mrs Worthington I encounter convinces me she's taken it on board, I'll be advising her not to put her daughter on the stage.

OVERTURES Menotti honoured

THE Italian composer Gian Carlo Menotti has been awarded the 1995 Montblanc de la Culture Award for Europe. Menotti, famous for his operas *The Consul* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, was honoured for his role as founder and patron of two music festivals: the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto and Spoleto USA in Charleston, South Carolina. The Montblanc award carries a prize of \$25,000, donated to the arts cause of the winner's choice.

THE Royal Swedish Ballet and the Royal Danish Ballet are coming to London, the Swedes for the first time in their 200-year history. Their season at the Coliseum (July 4-8) will feature Nureyev's *Don Quixote*. The Danes will be at Covent Garden, where they will give two performances of *Caroline Mathilde*, Flemming Flindt's historical drama set to a score by Peter Maxwell Davies, on August 31 and September 1.

AMERICAN actress Rue McClanahan, star of the TV series *The Golden Girls*, will make her West End debut on May 18, at the Shaftesbury Theatre. She and another TV stalwart, Gordon Kaye, will appear in the revival of Mary Chase's classic comedy *Harvey*, about a drunkard and his invisible rabbit.

CABARET singer Maria Friedman, whose solo show at the Donmar Warehouse last spring is up for an Olivier Award, will bring a revised version of the show to the Queen's Theatre in the West End in May. Meanwhile, Friedman's husband, Jeremy Samuels, has been confirmed to direct the London premiere of Stephen Sondheim's *Pastor* in September.

DARLINGS of the Brits, Blur have been working with a glamorous figure from yesterday, the Gallic chanteuse Françoise Hardy. She joins Blur frontman Damon Albarn on *To The End*, at present intended for French release only. Meanwhile, the reclusive 1960s pop icon Scott Walker is about to make a comeback. *Tilt*, his first album since 1984's critically acclaimed *Climate of the Hunter*, is set for release by Mercury on May 1.

THEATRE: Noël Coward's nightmare of Nazi occupation and, right, a dream turned avant-garde nightmare

Britain's secret wartime weapon

FOR a Noël Coward musical you expect to see the stage fill with clusters of boys and girls who will eventually burst, though decorously, into song and dance. But when he wrote a play he was sensibly economical with the cast, and thus the most remarkable feature of his first postwar play, produced in 1947 and only rarely revived, is the astonishing number of actors he decided to use.

In the 15 minutes before the play begins 20 people assemble in the saloon bar of a Pimlico pub early in 1941. A theatrical couple in evening dress prop up the bar; all six tables are occupied with couples knitting, talking or sipping mild & bitter; more customers lean through the window from the public. And before long the number of cast will climb to 27.

Making the enterprise even more impressive is the fact that this is a touring production, by the Touring Partnership in association with Michael Redington — playing Cardiff this week, next week Norwich, and then Bath and Newcastle. The approach of the fiftieth anniversary of VE

Peace in Our Time
Richmond Theatre

Day provides the pretext for a revival that is acted with enough detail and conviction to make the occasional oddities of Coward's writing become less faults than qualities of the time.

He set out to imagine how the British might have endured a Nazi occupation, and what aspects of "British character" could enable them to survive it. One girl goes around with German soldiers, but only one. A literary gent collaborates, but again only one. Everyone else is actively or tacitly supporting the Resistance, and if this seems a self-reassuringly high proportion it doubtless accorded with postwar euphoria.

What does not feel real is the prevailing perkiness. Bad things are happening: a real atrocity occurs near the end but the threat of it is present from the start; yet the more vocal locals (Liz Crowther, Angela Down, Carmen Du Sautoy) do not guard their tongues. Caustic irony, ac-



Fine performances: Ian Shaw and Doreen Mantle

According to Coward, is the British secret weapon. Maybe, but its wide deployment comes across as foolhardy.

In the second half the pace is slow between the critical events but throughout Wyn Jones's production moments occur that condense the experience of enemy occupation into a sharp tableau. One of these assembles a dozen

people around the bar to listen to an Allied broadcast, and the sense of a need that defies danger is powerfully expressed. Other good performances come from Doreen Mantle and Elizabeth Carling, and the play's warmth and attachment to honour make it an attractive experience.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Lousy spelling

If We Shadows
Young Vic

LET'S get one thing straight: Peter Brooks is not Peter Brook. Twenty-five years ago, Brook wowed the theatre scene with his daring vision of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There Shakespeare's paramours mistook their partners in a white world of the imagination. Today Brooks, directing his inappropriately named company Insomniac Productions, employs a 1960s setting for his reworking of the same play, or what's left of it.

Here the midsummer misalliances run riot, in the wake of a wedding at a drink and drugs party in a weird country house. Wooden panelled walls spin and slide, transmogrifying endlessly into a bewildering mess of rooms. Unfortunately, Brooks's management of Laura Hopkins's hinged rolling screens is mechanically messy.

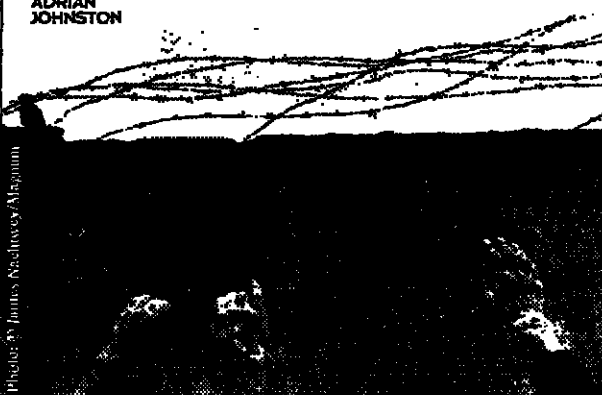
So, too, the verbal scrambling of Shakespearean snippets and modern interruptions is more awkward than humorous. The cast, although doing their best, are a fuzzy blur of Shakespeare's characters and a crowd of young things with names like Sadie. There are some witty theatrical *trompe l'oeils* as countless bodies disappear behind the sofa. There is also a sense of vulnerable naivety in the air.

KATE BASSETT

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The mystery of quantum physics □ Why prudent and conscientious people live longer □ The effect of magnetic fields on laboratory experiments



THE experiment that for Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman was the central mystery of quantum physics has become more mysterious still. Easy enough to describe, it defies explanation.

Every physics student has seen interference fringes, caused by two beams of light overlapping with each other. Invented by the English physicist Thomas Young in the early 1800s, the experiment involves shining a light on to two narrow slits or holes in a screen. On the other side of the screen, the light spreads out from the holes and the two beams interfere with each other. Where the peaks of the light waves coincide, there is brightness; but where peak coincides with trough, darkness. A second screen placed in the right place displays the pattern. The experiment provides a vivid proof that light is a wave.

But other evidence insists that light also consists of individual particles, called photons. In fact, the particles can be produced one by one. Long after the days of

Need a light on the subject?



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

Young, physicists showed that if individual photons are fired at the holes one after the other, and the spots of light totted up on the other side by a photoelectric cell, interference still takes place.

Here we have individual photons, which one would imagine must pass through one hole or the other. Yet somehow they are interfering with themselves. How can this be?

Quantum theorists would argue that interference arises because it is not possible, even in principle, to determine which of the holes the photons go through. In a sense,

interference pattern disappears, as quantum theorists would predict. Three physicists have now added another refinement. Doctors Raymond Chiao of the University

of California at Berkeley, Paul Kwiat of the University of Innsbruck, and Aephraim Steinberg of the US National Institute of Standards and Technology in Maryland, have added a third polarising filter, which they call an eraser, close to the second screen. This cancels out the labelling of the photons, and the pattern duly reappears.

From this result, it appears that the photons can tell in advance — before they even reach it — that there is an erasing filter waiting for them at the other side of the screen. If interference occurs, the photons must be going through both holes: when there is no interference, they must be going through one or the other.

How does a photon approaching the holes know how it is supposed to behave before it even encounters filters? The experiment seems to defy the laws of causation, which insist that results must follow causes, not precede them.

John Gribbin, reporting on the experiments in *New Scientist*, quotes Feynman as saying: "No-body understands quantum physics." Hardly surprising, when it turns out conundrums such as this.

Bad cheer



MORE than half a century ago, the psychologist Lewis Terman launched a study of 1,528 boys and girls in California. The distinguishing characteristic of the group was their high IQ, but the data has now been used for information about longevity.

The results are not too encouraging if you believe that a cheerful life is bound to be a lengthy one. Reporting in *American Psychologist*, Howard Friedman, of the University of California at Riverside, and colleagues say that it is the boring swots who live longest: "Children, especially boys, who were rated as prudent, conscientious, truthful, and free from vanity lived significantly longer."

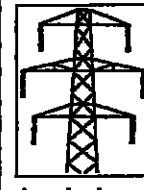
By the same token, being a cheery extrovert does not bode so well. "Contrary to our expectations, we have found that childhood cheerfulness is inversely related to longevity," they say. It seems that such traits go hand in

hand with impulsiveness, egocentrism and arrogance, which are linked with smoking, drinking and risk-taking.

Other risk factors can take years off your life, too. Social instability — indicated by parents who divorce — is linked with an average loss of four years of life. The Terman group is a good source for a study like this, because the fate of the children was not in general confounded by poverty, ignorance, or discrimination.

The authors of the study at least get a grim satisfaction from it. "In terms of the rush towards death," they write, "the encouraging news is that good guys finish last."

Rogue mineral



LOTS of people worry that living under power cables may give them cancer. Although there is not a lot of epidemiological evidence that it does, there are plenty of laboratory experiments that appear to show that cells growing

in culture can be influenced by magnetic fields.

Now a group of scientists has suggested that many of these results may be the result of accidental contamination with the mineral magnetite, an oxide of iron. This is ubiquitous in nature, say Dr Michael Nesson of Oregon State University and colleagues, and could easily account for many of the published results.

In their experiments, they found that even pre-sterilised labware and commercially prepared cultures were not free of contamination. And because the particles are easily taken up by cells, and are influenced by magnetic fields, they could easily account for many of the "biological" effects of magnetic fields that have been reported in the literature. The point is hardly academic, as a \$65 million research programme has been launched in America to try to quantify the effects of magnetic fields on life.

Writing in *Nature*, the group urges caution. "Data used to establish human exposure standards to electromagnetic fields must rely on properly controlled experiments."

The men who were born to be gay

Matt Ridley ponders the riddle posed by the discovery of the gene that makes men homosexual

When the "gay gene" was discovered in 1993, the announcement was greeted with horror. It would be used, alarmists said, to try to "cure" homosexuality — conveniently ignoring the fact that Freudians, Fascists and behaviourists had been trying to "cure" homosexuality for many years on the assumption that it was acquired, not inherited.

Then a surprising thing happened. Gay men, at first in America, then later in this country reacted with enthusiasm to the discovery. We have always argued, they said, that our sexuality was instinctive and inevitable, not perverse.

Dr Dean Hamer, the scientist who first pinned down the book on his discovery, called *The Science of Desire* (Simon & Schuster, £16.95). There is

now little doubt in the scientific community that he is right. Homosexuality can be detected early in life; it runs in families (but from mother to son, which makes this harder to spot); and there is even a candidate gene or group of genes.

Many gay men share an identical version of a small segment of the X chromosome called Xq28; straight men have different versions of Xq28. This does not mean Xq28 is a single gene, or that the only cause of homosexuality is Xq28. But if you are born with that particular version of Xq28, you have a high probability of being homosexual.

What is the gay gene and how did it evolve? Since it effectively renders its owner uninterested in procreation, surely it must go rapidly extinct by natural selection? There are two immediate and



False colour scanning electron micrograph of the X and Y (sex) chromosomes in a human male. Dr Dean Hamer discovered that many gay men share an identical version of a small segment of the X chromosome; those who are born with it have a high probability of being homosexual

obvious ripostes to this, neither particularly convincing. The first is that the gay version of the gene is a mutation that keeps recurring as rapidly as natural selection purges it from the population. We now know that there are parts of various chromosomes that suffer repeated and rapid mutation. Fragile-X syndrome, for example, is a nasty genetic illness causing severe mental retardation that occurs whenever a certain gene mutates.

But homosexuality is much more common than Fragile-X. To overcome its reproductive drawbacks it would have to be influenced by a gene that suffered an extraordinary mutation rate.

The other obvious explanation is that gay people have bred at virtually a normal rate until recently, since homosexuality was so frowned upon that they had little choice but to marry. Oscar Wilde had two children, after all. Ironically, it is only since homosexuality became tolerated that the gay gene has come under selective pressure to go extinct. Today, gay men in America have about a tenth as many children as heterosexuals do; 20 years ago, they had a fifth.

Again, this explanation is far from convincing, because for centuries many men have chosen to be bachelors, and, although not all bachelors are gay, it is impossible to believe that celibacy was not more attractive to homosexually inclined men. The gay gene must always have had at least a small disadvantage, even if that disadvantage has grown in recent years.

Other, slightly more bizarre explanations spring to mind. In the 1975 film *Shampoo*, Warren Beatty played a philandering hairdresser who seduces the wives of Hollywood moguls who assume he is gay. Perhaps, in societies of old, gay men could be more easily infiltrated by the harem of the rich, being trusted as if they were eunuchs.

Or maybe gay men were once invaluable assistants in helping to rear their brothers' children, as some birds spend much of their lives helping their parents to rear other young: so gay men could be



Dr Hamer: discoverer

more genetically successful as uncles than as parents. But that, too, seems unlikely.

Much the most convincing explanation of the gay gene comes from a new and strange branch of evolutionary theory known as genomic conflict. Genes thrive to the extent that they reproduce themselves. Normally, this is to delegate reproduction to the whole body the gene inhabits — to be a team player, in other words. But occasionally there are ways to steal a march even on your team-mates.

Genomic conflict theory has uncovered a weird series of mutations, and the mechanisms to suppress them, that exist for the benefit of genes at the expense of other genes in the same body. We, and other animals, are full of such genetic mutineers, and of genes that have conflicts of

Surely a gay gene must go extinct by natural selection?

interest with each other. Only by the most careful genetic policing is harmony maintained in our chromosomes.

One of the best examples is genomic imprinting, which causes paternal genes to distinguish themselves from maternal ones. The placenta, for instance, is built and controlled by paternal genes only; it is as if they simply do not trust the maternal genes to do a greedy enough job of sequestering the mother's energy.

The maternal genes have a conflict of interest because they want their cousins in her body to thrive, too. Perhaps the gay gene is one of these: one that is sufficiently positive effects if it is in a female that it thrives despite the negative effects it has on males. The fact that the gene lies on the X chromosome is significant. Women have two X chromosomes; men have

one. So X chromosomes spend twice as much of their time in women as in men. According to the biologist William Rice, if a gene on an X chromosome halves male fertility, but raises female fertility by a factor of just 1.35, that gene will not go extinct. It will stabilise at 3.6 per cent of the population — roughly the proportion of men who are gay.

Nor need the gene only affect fertility. Human beings are not like herrings, which try to have as many offspring as possible but do not look after them; they invest in quality rather than quantity. In the long run a human female will probably have more great grandchildren if she bears two or three children, rears them in a wealthy and healthy environment, and launches them on good careers than if she spews out a dozen disadvantaged kids.

So the gene in Xq28 that sometimes causes homosexuality in men might cause women to have higher-quality offspring. It might give her more milk, say, or larger breasts, smoother skin or a narrower waist, the better to attract a wealthy or high-status mate with good genes and resources to invest in her children. This is pure speculation, but it illustrates the point that any reproductive advantage an X chromosome gains in a female can offset a disadvantage twice as large in the male.

So far the search for what the gene in Xq28 is actually doing has drawn a blank. It does not contain the code for the hormonal receptor for testosterone, one of Dr Hamer's first guesses. Nor does it seem to be linked to "gender-atypical behaviour", left-handedness or any developmental oddity. It is a good bet that the gene does something during the development of the brain, if only because about 50 per cent of our genes seem to be concerned mainly with ensuring the development of that organ.

The question the biologists should be asking next is what the gene does in the brains and bodies of normal women, not of gay men.

● Matt Ridley is author of *The Red Queen* — Sex and the Evolution of Human Nature (Penguin).

How to spot rotten apples

Are we too complacent about scientific fraud? asks Dr Jon Turney

A late night in the lab. Everyone else has gone home. And the data coming from this latest run just don't make sense. One more weary trawl through the notebook. Wait a minute. How would it look if those two numbers were moved into that set over the page? That is a definite trend. It could have happened like that. Who will ever know it didn't?

And one more scientist succumbs to temptation. It does happen. How often, no one knows. They may not be as dramatic as the *Pittown Man* forgery early this century, but the number of cases has undoubtedly risen in the past 15 years.

In several countries, especially America, there are new agencies investigating scientific misconduct. Not so in Britain. We do not really have a problem, scientific leaders say. Or is it that we are not looking hard enough?

That is the reason which is highlighted in a hard-hitting *Horizon* programme tonight (BBC2, 9pm). The film features several cases of fabricated medical research, aims anonymous evidence from junior researchers who have seen other cases, and hints that this is the tip of an iceberg of fudging, trimming and outright fakery.

There is Dr Aws Salim, submitting papers which feature phantom patients with pancreaticitis. They were seen in Edinburgh, where he worked for a time, or maybe Baghdad, from where he sent a sheaf of personal testimonials all typed on the same machine.

There is Dr Malcolm Pearce of St George's Hospital Medical School in London, who last year announced that he had achieved the first successful reimplantation of an ectopic pregnancy. The hospital has no record of the patient whose baby was allegedly saved.

And there are others, unidentified, who bear witness to malpractice in studies of psychiatric care, of toxic effects of industrial chemicals and in drug trials.

The typical British reaction to cases like these does not seem to have changed in 30 years. C.P. Snow's novel, *The Affair*, first published in 1960, centres on a suspected scientific fraud in a Cambridge college. A "piece of scientific fraud is of course unthinkable," reflects the Master of the college, but "any unnecessary publicity about it... is as near as unforgivable as makes no matter."

The main influence in trying to change this has been Dr Stephen Lock, a former editor of the *British Medical Journal*. Puzzled that he could only recall four British cases of plagiarism or fraud in the last two decades, he wrote to a small sample of medical professors and journal editors. Between them, the 79 who replied had seen 41 cases of scientific misconduct. Since then he has worked on and off for almost ten years trying to persuade British institutions

to take the problem seriously. What that might mean is shown in the United States, where a series of lengthy confessional investigations into celebrated misconduct cases led to the founding of the Office of Research Integrity in 1989. It responds to whistleblowers in laboratories by mounting detailed legal and scientific investigations, and represents a very public effort to make sure that the billions of taxpayers' dollars which American researchers spend are used for experiments which could actually be reproduced by someone else.

How much work would there really be for a British equivalent? The true prevalence of fraud is probably unknowable. But it is plausible that the chances of fraud are increasing, both because pressure on research funds is intensifying, and because the sheer volume of modern scientific publishing compromises quality control.

With more than 250,000 scientific papers published annually, can academic editors and referees really spot the rotten apples?

Or could a British laboratory be home to a scientist such as John Darcey, a Harvard heart-disease researcher who made up his results for more than ten years, and published them in more than 100 papers. Most worryingly, he also convinced 47 different co-authors to put their names to some of these papers. None of them had queried his data.

Would an anti-fraud agency be worth it?

One could argue that most fraud is harmless. Simple plagiarism is purely academic, as the purported results are still true. Fabrication is rarely serious, as most results are so trivial that no one either notices them or acts on them. The few cases where large claims are made are uncovered precisely because they challenge others' work.

But that is only one measure of worth. The more important work such an institution does is to guard the good name of science. That is perhaps the strongest reason why other countries have decided they must be seen to act.

● Dr Jon Turney is Wellcome Fellow in science communication, University College London.

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FALLING STANDARDS IN MATHS. DO THE CLAIMS ADD UP?

Mathematics professors claim that the standards and skills of new students have fallen. But tests suggest that A-levels are actually harder now than in the 1950s.

This Friday The Times Educational Supplement examines all sides of the debate in a TES Mathematics Extra, which also looks at the new GCSE criteria and numeracy in primary schools.

The TES. Out this Friday.

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One cherished old card game taught a generation the subtle skills of lying and cheating the customs officer

I'm sorry, sir, the game is up

Bear with me; this is an anniversary, which must be marked by a certain hidden brotherhood among readers of this newspaper. March is a good time for it: dreary, damp, a time of wanderlust when the Peter Kerry in all of us stirs, powerfully, an urge to cross borders.

A year ago, gathering up my family to embark on a modest crossing of Europe by train, I appealed without much hope for anybody who remembered the card game entitled Contraband. This romantic game of bluffing the customs officer was immensely popular in my family when we were children, since our lives as diplomatic brats involved a lot of border crossings, with all the frissons of excitement and terror they entailed.

In the game, you drew cards then looked the Customs Officer in the eye and said "nothing to declare except oh, a pair of nylons and some perfume, duty £15, here you are". The CO had to

decide whether you were, in fact, concealing the Ruritanian Crown Jewels or a diamond watch. You learnt to collude with fellow-smugglers, to inform, to counter-bluff, best of all, to claim in a sweepingly grand manner that you held the Diplomatic Bag and therefore need declare nothing whatsoever to any insolent foreigner. There was only one Diplomatic Bag card, but it rarely got claimed fewer than five times.

The game, sadly, vanished into a cloud of political correctness and worthily sensible feelings that modern smuggling is nothing to laugh about. I mourned it, though, and you mourned, too. The letters still come on occasional, asking "Did you ever get a set?" It is time to answer.

Yes, I did. One set and a spare, thank you. Several more, sent in anonymously. I sent on to other desperate

Contraband-hunters including a children's orchestra which plays it in intervals: each box set me quivering with delight at the sight of the nylons, the perfume, the old-fashioned brandy bottle and the diamond necklaces. It was as good as a trip on the Orient Express. But best of all, evidence flooded in that this fine game has taught a whole generation to lie.

"Our players," reminisced one happily, "included a rector (to become a bishop), the future mayor of our home town and my father, a headmaster — all of whom could smuggle the Ruritanian Crown Jewels through without batting an eyelid, whereas we children found it difficult to cope with even the nylons without smirking. The Diplo-



matic Bag has a slight fold on the top left-hand corner, put there by my eldest brother (now a consultant gynaecologist) to catch my father red-handed, but the fold in the middle of the Ruritanian Crown Jewels can be cunningly hidden by the left forefinger."

One distinguished man wrote resoundingly: "I have found it excellent training in how to lie convincingly — an important social skill which, thus practised in my formative years, has played no small part in the success of my subsequent sexual and business careers." And a woman, with devilish cunning: "I learnt in our shared childhood of playing this fine game in various country houses that when James, now my husband, is lying, he

fiddles with the hair over his right temple. He has done this since he was six, and I ascribe the stability of our marriage to the fact that I know when he is lying, and he knows I know. Sadly, there is hardly any hair left now, and I fear he may start winning again. Have you any advice?"

Well, no. On the evidence of the letters, frankly, I would not buy a used car from many of you. My own children are becoming equally adept. The ten-year-old, when challenged by the Customs Officer, tends to say "I've got a gun!". Often, it turns out she wasn't lying, and she claims the payment for deflation of character. The 12-year-old has picked up from his uncle a post-modern trick of beginning every declaration with "I've got a bale of cannabis resin, two sacks of heroin, twelve Kalashnikovs,

some obscene books — but you won't be interested in all that, officer. I do have a pair of nylons, though... £5, was it". And so the romance of crossing borders is preserved, albeit shakily, into the age of Eurostar.

Other vanished games, however, keep turning up in postscripts. "Ah, but do you remember Scoop? ... Ship Ahoy! ... and Buccaneer? ... I still play Sooty's Magic Card Game (do you remember the Oofie Dust and Magic Wand cards?) ... and what about Kargo, and Pit and Flounders and Slippery Anne ...?"

In my original researches on Contraband, it turned out that there is nobody who specialises in collecting old, forgotten family card games. "No market," they said to me, scornfully, in those circles where virgin Dinky cars exchange hands for hundreds of pounds. "They're so rarely in mint condition." But that is the charm of them: the years, and generations, of gleeful pleasure stored in every arched crease.

'I must stop playing these harrowing parts'

Ben Kingsley has found himself yet another intense role, in *Death and the Maiden*, says Julia Llewellyn Smith

Ben Kingsley has made his name playing reflective, austere men. He won an Oscar for his portrayal of Gandhi and deserved another for Itzhak Stern, the quiet accountant in *Schindler's List*. Who knows what these ascetics would make of the cool movie star in black jeans, a grey cashmere jumper and red mohair scarf, who is sipping tea in the designer surroundings of Blake's Hotel in South Kensington.

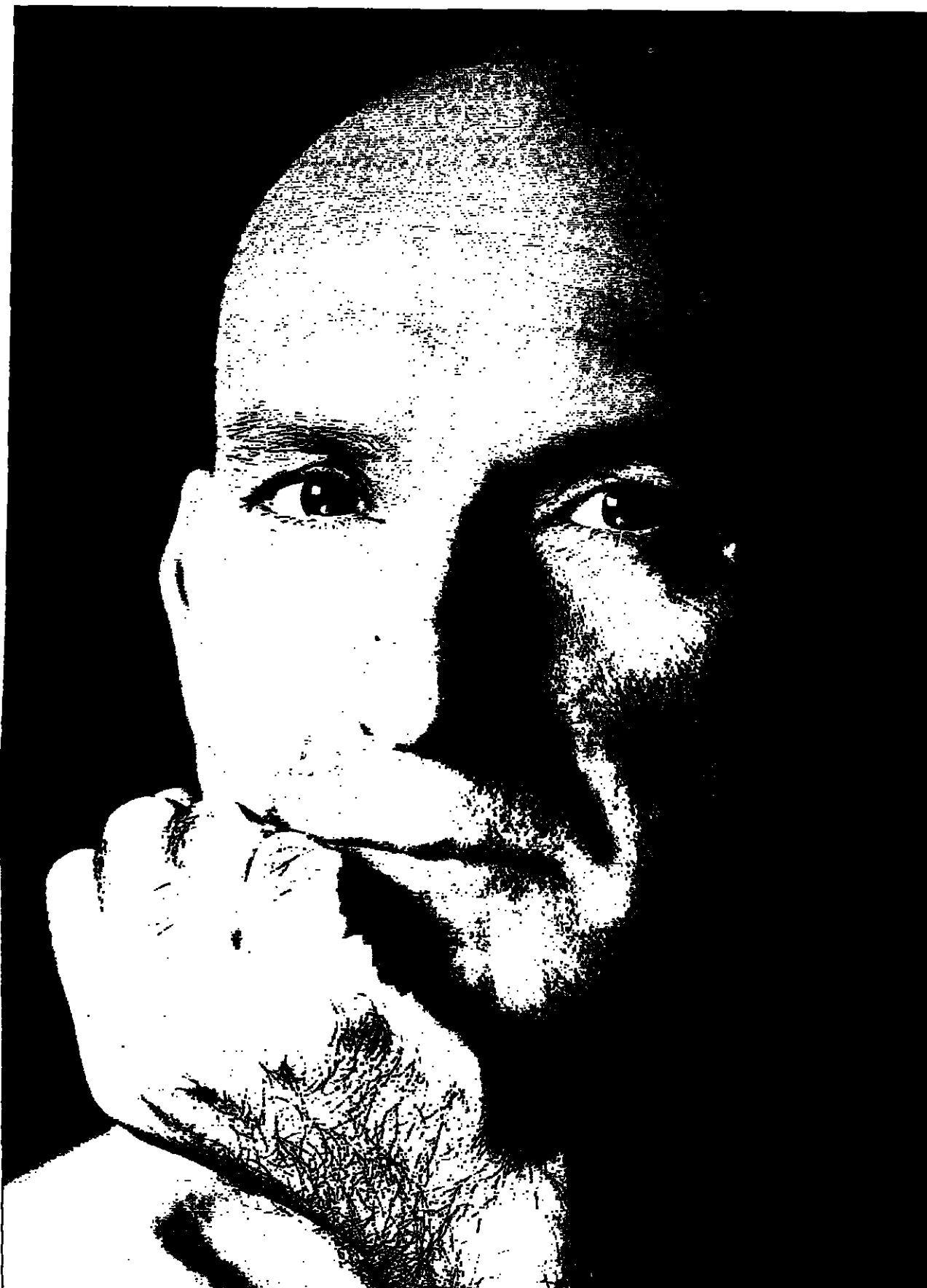
He looks too glamorous to be British, and, despite his greying temples and luminous bald patch, far younger than 51. He speaks in mellifluous Received Pronunciation. The only reminder of the screen Kingsley is his huge, dark, querying eyes, with pupils the size of pound coins, eyes which he himself compares to Bambi's. These are the eyes which glinted with humanity behind the Mahatma's round specs, and registered unspoken terror as Stern watched his fellow Jews being herded to their deaths.

His eyes have never been used to better effect, however, than in *Death and the Maiden*, the film of the Ariel

Dorfman play, which opens next month. The film, directed by Roman Polanski, is set in an unnamed South American country, where Kingsley's character, Dr Roberto Miranda, plays a late-night visit to a lawyer and his wife. The wife (played by Sigourney Weaver) is convinced that Miranda is the man who tortured and raped her, during the country's era of repression and decides to take her revenge.

Miranda never stops protesting his innocence; nonetheless he is bound, gagged and subjected to countless humiliations, throughout which his facial expressions are the only clue to his emotions. Kingsley revels in the ambiguity: his outrage could be that of a wrongly accused innocent or of a criminal who thought he had got away with it. His confessions could have been invented out of terror, but they could have been the reluctant truth.

Kingsley had, in fact, decided on Miranda's stance before he started filming, but he will not say whether he played the character as good or evil. In any case, he says, under a dictatorship most people are compromised. "I cannot



Kingsley: his eyes have never been used to better effect than as the supposed torturer in *Death and the Maiden*

believe that the whole German nation was, for a period, made up of psychopaths. You get sucked in.

"While we were making *Schindler's List* we talked to the old men who drove the trains to Auschwitz. They said the engine noises muffled the screams, all the same they needed a crate of schnapps when they got there to get over it."

The connection to *Schindler's List* is easily made. Kingsley seems to be making a habit of these harrowing films that delve into the darkness of human nature. "I'm glad I did *Schindler's List* but it left me pared down to the bone," he says.

"Afterwards I felt like a refugee. But then I was made an offer which, as president of the Chile solidarity campaign, I couldn't refuse."

Sill, it is time for change. "If I were a painter I would have to stop doing these blue paintings. But as an actor there's not that autonomy, unless you're prepared to risk the possibility of starving."

"I said to myself recently, 'Ben you are no longer a card-carrying member of the victim business'. I wanted to play someone who has control over his life." So next he is off to Morocco to play Potiphar, in a television mini-series. "I need some light relief," he says grinning.

Victim or not, Kingsley's best work has always dealt with Issues. "It's not con-

scious, but it might be a subconscious thing," he says. The son of an Indian doctor from Salford and an English actress mother, Kingsley, who was born Krishna Bhanji, has had plenty of experience of being in a minority. "At school my brother and sisters and I were the darkest people anyone had ever seen in their lives," he says, and his eyes flash at the memory.

"I quickly had to learn, where the other person was coming from. I was rather a gorgeous child and when people came towards me I never knew if they were going to hug me or hit me."

Kingsley's early acting career was not auspicious. He was rejected by RAD and axed from *Coronation Street*, in which he played Ron Jenkins, a teenage Romeo, who tried to pick up Ken Barlow's first wife, Val, after only two episodes. He considered a career as a pop star, auditioning for the Beatles' manager, Brian Epstein, but turned down a contract in favour of the stage. He was rewarded by an offer to join the Royal Shakespeare Company, where in the 1970s he worked his way through the leading roles. "I must be the only actor who's been in the Street and played Hamlet at Stratford," he chuckles.

All very respectable, but hardly the stuff of stardom.

Peter Brook once said to me "If life is unmanageable, your work will suffer" and I was not in a good state. Since then I have tried to address certain things about being me," he blushes, "and I was instantly offered the role of Meyer Lansky in *Bugsy* and nominated for best supporting actor."

He was away for ten months last year, but Britain remains his base. His four children from his two marriages are here and he has just bought a house in Oxfordshire. "I may never go there but it's the idea that counts."

He may appear on stage again, but is making no promises. "People say 'When are you going to return to the theatre?' in the same tone as

Kingsley was 37 when he was offered the part of Gandhi, his first feature film role and suddenly he was clasping his Oscar, making emotional acceptance speeches and being looked over by every agent in Hollywood. Even 13 years later, whenever he visits India he is still pursued by crowds convinced that their leader has come back to life. Elsewhere, having starred in a dozen films, he has escaped being typecast and is stumped when asked which is his favourite role. "I can't decide, which just shows how fortunate I have been."

"There was only one point in 1989 when I was doing really bad work. Peter Brook once said to me 'If life is unmanageable, your work will suffer' and I was not in a good state. Since then I have tried to address certain things about being me," he blushes, "and I was instantly offered the role of Meyer Lansky in *Bugsy* and nominated for best supporting actor."

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He may appear on stage again, but is making no promises. "People say 'When are you going to return to the theatre?' in the same tone as

the priest saying 'I haven't seen you in church for a while'."

The truth, heretical as it seems, is that Kingsley prefers the cinema to theatre. "I went to a play the other night and I thought 'Oh help, look at all those people acting. And that was what I did for 15 years, booming out Othello on the stage. There was a lot of showing off, showing the audience my acting."

"Now on screen, you show the character's behaviour. You have to be very accurate and very spontaneous at the same time and if you get it wrong it will be up there for people to see in 25, 30, 50 years' time."

For despite his style and flamboyance, Kingsley is more interested in other people than in himself. He mentions his friends constantly and while his "darling Sigourneys" and "dear Romans" can sound like overblown luvviness, they are more probably the mark of a genuinely uncynical person. "I have a tremendous capacity for awe," he says. "I worry about people who say I have been there and done that."

And this despite the fact, that he has been there and done pretty much everything. "No, I haven't, love," he says. "I would like to do something romantic. I'm always acting with blokes. Serves me right for getting an Oscar for playing a celibate." And then he can wear some smart clothes on screen.

Famine has no place in a democracy

Linda Chalker should have set upon the greedy scoundrels at the UN party

IT WAS unfair of Oxfam to mail Lady Chalker at the big United Nations poverty party in Copenhagen for delivering "a lecture on poverty and the benefit of free trade to the starving children of Africa". She was doing nothing of the kind, because the starving children of Africa were not present at this lavish international knees-up. Nor were they even represented, which is the nub of the problem.

What Lady Chalker should have done was seize the opportunity to deliver a lecture on the benefits of democracy. Among her audience, the leaders of 118 nations who had solemnly gathered in Den-

mark to aver that freedom from poverty is a basic human right, were some greedy, dictatorial scoundrels whom she could and should have set squirming.

She could have started by quoting Amartya Sen, an Indian professor whose years of work on the causes of starvation led him to this conclusion: "There has never been a famine in any country that's been a democracy with a relatively free press. I know of no exception. It applies to very poor countries with democratic systems as well as rich ones."

The point, he went on, was that "if famine is about to develop, democracy can guarantee that it won't".

She could have gone on to say that there has been no famine in India since independence despite a steadily rising population and severe food shortages in 1967, 1973, 1979 and 1987. She could have contrasted democratic India's situation with that of totalitarian China, where it was acts of ideological man, not of God, that caused 30 million people to starve between 1958 and 1961. The hunger was caused by politicians whom their suffering people were unable to call to account.

She could have fastened her beady eye on the representatives from Sudan and Ethiopia, whose citizens suffered so

terribly during the drought that afflicted sub-Saharan Africa in 1983 and 1984. Oxfam and all the other charities watched in anger and despair as the warring leaders used hunger as one more weapon in their callous armory.

During the drought, Professor Sen found that food production had declined in the Sudan by 11 per cent and in Ethiopia by 12½ per cent. The drought had even worse effects on food production in Botswana and Zimbabwe, however, reducing it in the latter case by over a third. Yet there was no famine in those two countries. As the American satirist P.J. O'Rourke put it: "The reason was that Sudan and Ethiopia didn't mind if certain troublesome portions of their populations starved to death while Botswana and Zimbabwe did mind."

O'Rourke spent a grim and bemusing couple of weeks in Somalia watching his countrymen thrashing around trying to save the Somalis from themselves, and themselves from the armed-to-the-teeth Somalis. The worst thing about the whole ghastly business was travelling through a country full of starving people and finding its fields full of food. Its markets were full of food too, unbelievably cheap food that had been sent in from all over the world as aid for the starving but had found its way into the hands of profiteers in such quantities that it was now undercutting those few Somalis who were still trying to farm for a living...

Lady Chalker could have made a quick exit and returned home, where we in the relatively free press would have quizzed her about the observations of Stan and Mani Thakassara, the Indian sociologists who found it pleasant to be poor in a mud hut in the Nilgiri Hills than in a Glasgow tenement, among the carousing unemployed fathers of malnourished infants and drug-addicted teenagers.

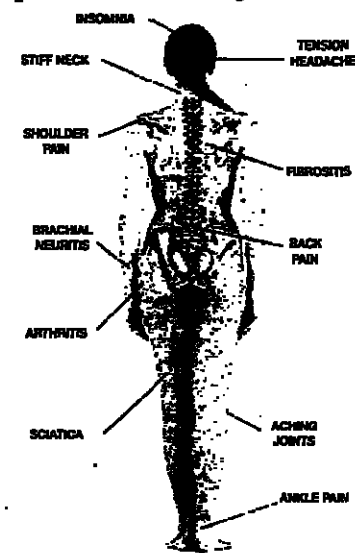


MARGOT NORMAN

Leaders use hunger as a weapon

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Matthew Parris



■ Many men are secretly crazy about railways, which is why their outdated technology has lasted so long

I am sorry for what I did, but I got over-zealous. Railways are my life. Thus spoke Tim Wallis, 37, an accountant and bachelor. He is in good company. Millions of us suffer a mild form of the dementia to which he is prey.

Wallis featured briefly in this paper under the headline "Obsessed train-spotter took BR for a ride". He was in court, convicted for systematically cheating the railways, to finance his hobby, which was travelling on trains. His goal was to travel on every one of BR's 22,770 miles of track. He had almost reached it. He had travelled in trains hauled by 460 of BR's 550 locomotives.

If Wallis's zeal was unusual, his hobby is not. Tens of thousands of train-spotters are out in all weathers in their fur-trimmed anoraks and Thermoses, indulging a habit that can only be classified as a mental illness. I believe the compulsion to play with a system of transport which herds passengers into wagons and forces them along prescribed paths at set speeds and times is linked to the impulse analysed in Wilhelm Reich's *The Mass Psychology of Fascism* and bound up with anal retentiveness and childhood repression.

And for every fully fledged train-spotter, there are hundreds of us who would not go so far, but simply love railways. We make excuses to travel by train even when it doesn't make sense. We instinctively warm to the argument for keeping open any line or station, even before we have done the sums — and often in defiance of the sums. We watch "Great Rail Journey" programmes on TV. We stand in toy shops staring goofily at little circles of toy track with little toy locomotives pulling little toy carriages round and round. Almost all of us are male.

A jolly little tale of masculine eccentricity. Thus far the story is rather sweet. Now it turns sinister. Because for every hundred thousand amateur railway enthusiasts, there is a professor of transport economics, and newspaper editor, a public transport lobbyist or consultant or civil servant who secretly shares that irrational predisposition to travelling by train or making other people travel by train, but who knows how to rationalise it.

Between them, this group, prey to a form of mild but persistent lunacy, have formed over recent decades, and still form, a loose, unwitting, but immensely powerful lobby for the diversion of literally hundreds of billions of pounds into a form of transport which was already obsolete by 1950.

Railways don't pay. They

haven't paid since the Second World War. They won't ever pay. And their failure to pay is not (as the lobbyists claim) because we fail to quantify the real but intangible social benefits of a railway system, but because even when we do, a pound spent on the construction of a fixed, permanent, iron way upon which to run trains of heavy steel carriages on steel wheels, which take a mile to stop, and which cannot overtake each other when one gets stuck, sterilising the land consumed from any other transport use — that pound will never buy, will never even remotely approach buying, what a pound will buy if spent on forms of conveyance which take advantage of the three great technical revolutions transforming the economics of the overland transport since 1918: the development of rubber, asphalt, and the small, portable internal combustion engine.

The argument against railways now that we have roads is comparable with the argument against canals once we had railways. It was not primarily a moral or political argument, though it was opposed on precisely those grounds, the British great of preferring debates which do not need facts. It was an engineer's argument, and it was final. So will this be. Railways are dying. It makes no difference whether they are publicly or privately owned, they are uneconomical for all modern applications except those with the most intensive and continuous passenger demand.

Last year I completed a six-month experiment using National Express instead of British Rail between London and Chesterfield. The coach was a little slower, more cramped, and I missed train travel. But the return fare was £15. BR's hovered around £45. The sums are staggering.

Why are railways so slow to die? There are two reasons. Railtrack possesses one vast and almost priceless asset: nearly 3,000 miles of exclusive rights of way along all the most important corridors between every significant centre of population. Possessing this, it would be hard for any transport system to fail. Parliament has given National Express no such asset.

The other reason is that there is a little of Tim Wallis in half the men in Britain, notably those of the Establishment who are the main beneficiaries of rail subsidy. Wallis's madness only cost a few hundred pounds. The great and the good, however, have charged the taxpayer billions for their hobby. I call it the Hornby 00 syndrome. These people should be forced to wear fur-trimmed anoraks so that we can recognise them for what they are.

Between them, this group, prey to a form of mild but persistent lunacy, have formed over recent decades, and still form, a loose, unwitting, but immensely powerful lobby for the diversion of literally hundreds of billions of pounds into a form of transport which was already obsolete by 1950.

Railways don't pay. They

Britons' wealth as a proportion of Americans' is much the same as 100 or even 200 years ago

Being truthful with the economists

statistics at the time he was writing, he had no choice but to rely on personal observation and intuition for much of his development of theory. The other evening I wanted to find out what he had written about the then emerging economy of the United States. The references go back to the first edition of his *Essay on Population* (1798), and continue through the second edition of 1803 down to the last revised edition of 1826, and also run through the *Principles*.

In the *Essay on Population*, he writes: "In the United States, on the other hand, even the money wages of labour are nearly double those of England. Though the American labourer cannot purchase manufactures and foreign produce so cheap as the English labourer... his condition, compared with the labouring classes of England, must still on the whole have decidedly the advantage."

He notes in another place that the very low taxes of the United States, as compared with Europe, offset the additional costs of importing goods. Malthus's view is confirmed by another excellent economic writer of his time, William Playfair, the first editor of *Adam Smith*. He wrote in 1805: "America is the only country in the world, where, with respect to the wages of labour, and the produce of industry, money is of less value than in England... No country, that we read of in history, ever enjoyed equal advantages with the American states: they have good laws, a free government, and are possessed of all the inventions and knowledge of the old world. Arts are now conveyed across the Atlantic with more ease than they formerly were from one village to another." Playfair understood, nearly two centuries ago, the importance of technology transfer to economic development.

Neither Malthus nor Playfair had the concept of gross domestic product available to him, let alone the concept of GDP per head in terms of purchasing power — though that is the real test of a nation's standard of living. Yet they both recognised that the average wealth of Americans was higher than that of the British, while the British average was higher than the European, the European higher than the Asian, and the Asian higher than the African. This American advantage continued throughout the 19th century, which was why the United States had such magnetism for European immigrants. If England in the 19th century had enjoyed as high a GDP per head as the United States, there would now be 40 million Irish living in England rather

than America. Trade statistics suggest that the United States continued to generate more wealth per head than Britain throughout the last century. The American lead 100 and 200 years ago seems much the same. What is surprising is that it is still much the same now. Modern figures for GDP per head put Britain at about three-quarters of the American level. Yet this is the impression left both by Malthus and Playfair: wages in 1800 were about twice as high in America, but prices were also higher, though food was abundant and cheaper than manufactured goods. If one allows for the higher wages and the higher prices, it seems that the ratio between the United States and Britain was not far then from what it is now: about 1.3 to 1.

Of course the ranking of most other nations has changed. Since the mid 19th century, Western Europe has risen: since the mid 20th, Japan has risen; now China and other parts of Asia are rising. But the comparison is still significant. After all the revolutions in technology, after several booms and slumps, after a Civil War in America and two world wars, this fundamental economic ratio between our two countries has changed very little in two centuries. This suggests that there is a strong equilibrium pressure between advanced economies, once they have become established. It also suggests that politicians and economists make little difference if any at all.

There is something consoling for the British here. For most of the 20th century, except in the 1930s, the American economy has seemed much better than ours — more enterprising, more innovative, more productive, more advanced. Yet for all this hard work, the Americans do not appear to have made any relative gain in individual wealth against the British since Pitt was Prime Minister and Washington was President.

Labour files its claws

Peter Riddell
says Tony Blair is succeeding in making the party less frightening



Tony Benn has an uncanny ability to get to the heart of an issue, even when he draws the wrong conclusions. His claim that the rewriting of Clause Four is "another attempt to convert the Labour Party into the SDP" is essentially right. As one of Tony Blair's advisers has admitted: "Tony has founded a new party and thousands of people are flocking to join." New Labour is more than just a catchy slogan. The revised Clause Four on Labour's aims and objectives, to be unveiled formally later today, is part of Mr Blair's attempt to change the boundaries of politics, although New Labour has deeper roots and a better chance of success than the ill-fated SDP had 14 years ago. As Mr Benn and his allies complain, the new words mark a shift away from a class-based approach.

The proposed replacement will be dismissed as bland and full of what John Prescott likes to call "warm words". There are references to community, mutual rights and responsibilities, social justice, women's rights and the environment. Many phrases, such as "power, wealth and opportunity in the hands of the many and not the few", could be uttered by anyone apart from the archest High Tory writing for *The Salisbury Review*. But that is precisely the point. Mr Blair wants Labour to be in the mainstream, to reach out beyond its traditional, and declining, heartlands.

Mr Blair believes that the current clause reflects an outdated economic analysis which turns people away from Labour. The familiar words about "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange" were written in 1918 to enthrone left-wing activists. The main

political battles then were on class lines and turned on issues of ownership. But Mr Blair argues that politics is no longer production-orientated and that differences between the parties are now about underlying values. Parties pick from a similar mix of policies, which vary depending on the conditions and problems of the moment.

The new clause therefore matters far more for what it does not say than for what it does. It is not a statement of economic objectives, or even aspirations. Consequently, there are no commitments as to what should be in the public sector. Labour supports "a thriving private sector, where competitive markets should exist alongside public ownership in an economy which works in the public interest". The Left will be most critical of the omission of the words "full employ-

ment". Mr Blair, and close allies such as Gordon Brown, regard that as unachievable with the shift to a more flexible and unstable labour market. It is more honest, they believe, to talk of realising "the full potential of all".

The existence of Clause Four has been a barrier around Labour. By adopting a quasi-Marxist approach, the party turned its back on the broader left-of-centre grouping which had existed in Lib-Lab co-operation before 1914 and which was the basis of the American Democratic Party in its heyday, from the 1930s until the 1960s. There is a fascinating discussion of the impact of Clause Four on Lib-Lab relations — both what has been and what could be — in the new issue of *The Reformer*, the journal of the former SDP (and generally pro-Blair) wing of the Liberal Democrats.

It does not matter that no Labour government has advocated, let alone implemented, the sweeping nationalisation implicit in the clause. Its wording has been a touchstone for the party's traditionalists to call "betrayal" whenever a Labour government reaches the compromises inevitable in office. Ever since the collapse of the MacDonald Government in 1931, the Left has argued that Labour ministers have watered down the true faith embodied in Clause Four. This has provoked bitter infighting and the proposal of a "true socialist" programme whenever Labour loses office. This happened after Labour's defeats in 1951, 1970 and, most self-destructively, 1979, when the activists sought to take control of the parliamentary party.

All Labour leaders, apart from Hugh Gaitskell in 1960, have pretended that the existing clause is a familiar ritual which no one takes seriously. But plenty of people have, both inside and outside the party. Fear of a hidden socialist agenda has been a powerful weapon for the Tories to use to frighten voters.

It is tactically sensible for John Major to dismiss Clause Four as a dinosaur and to play down the importance of the battle, since Mr Blair looks likely to enjoy a big victory on April 29. But rewriting the clause, even with an all-encompassing formula, will be more than just a public relations victory, important though that might be just before the local elections in England on May 4. The exercise forces the party to produce a statement which members can realistically defend, and changes the terms of its internal debate. The consequence, Mr Blair hopes, is to help to create a party, in effect a new party, with a broader left-of-centre appeal.

The Clause Four battle is only a start. As Paddy Ashdown argued yesterday at his party's Scarborough conference, there is a difference between New Labour, "bright, shiny and modern", and old Labour, still present in many parts of the country. Mr Blair still has to show that Labour really is a new party, that many MPs and activists are not just paying lip-service so as to avoid jeopardising the party's hopes of winning the next election. The real test will come when Labour starts revealing the policies it is now preparing.

Before Mr Blair's approach was backed by the Scottish conference last Friday, his staff had been preparing a "fight, fight and fight again" speech like Gaitskell's of 1960, just in case he lost. Instead, Mr Blair faces the opposite danger of complacency. He needs some opposition to dramatise the changes. Perhaps the real evidence of New Labour will be if hard-left irreconcilables quit and form their own party. Unlike the SDP, whose existence kept Labour out of office, such a splinter might help Mr Blair into Downing Street. An SDP in reverse is, however, presumably not what Mr Blair has in mind.

On the defence

ONE SENIOR figure unamused at the Government's continuing cutbacks in our military forces is I. hear, Baroness Thatcher. The former Prime Minister has been heard grumbling to her erstwhile colleagues recently at the impact on Britain's defence capability of taking too drastic a knife to "our boys". Apart from lingering nostalgia for the Falklands campaign, she argues that defence is something that "we do rather well".

But one minister still devoted to her ladyship who is eager to avoid conversing about defence with his heroine is Michael Portillo. For the Employment Secretary has good reason to remember that despite her enthusiasm for hacking at public spending, Thatcher's parsimony did not extend to defence. When he was Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Portillo embarked on a defence review, "Frontline First", with Jonathan Aitken, who was then a defence minister. Together they reckoned on saving more than £2 billion over three years.

When attending a No Turning Back Group reception, Thatcher collared Portillo and laid into him about the cutbacks. Emerging still

quivering from the grilling, Portillo moaned to a friend: "She compared me to Neville Chamberlain. Worse, she compared me unfavourably to Neville Chamberlain."

Dig this

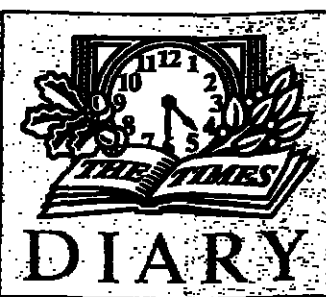
LORD ROTHSCHILD and Lord Sainsbury intend to make a dream come true. They are planning to finance major excavations at Alba-

nia's ancient archaeological site of Butrint. For years the two chums could only gaze across at the Albanian coastline from Rothschild's holiday home on Corfu. But when the Serbian Government finally fell, they visited the classical and Byzantine sites at Butrint and determined to uncover them.

Permission has now been granted by the Albanian Government, and at a lecture at the National Gallery in London this month, the architect leading the project, Professor Richard Hodges, will outline the plan of campaign in the hope of attracting other benefactors.

"It is one of the most splendid sites in the Mediterranean," enthuses Rothschild, who toyed with the prospect of an academic career after taking a first in history from Oxford. "We are organising this summer's digging at the moment, and I hope to go out there. My daughter Emmy will be working there with the British School of Archaeology, so I'll leave the digging to her."

As Tony Blair played anagrams with Labour's Clause Four on Saturday, another political Blair was celebrating his 22nd birthday on board the *TS Queen Mary*, moored on the Thames. David Blair, who works at Tory Central Office scanning every speech by the



Labour leader and John Prescott, saw the irony: "This is where Prescott celebrated after his election as deputy leader."

Watering hole

AN EXTREMELY delicate problem facing diners at that most exclusive of Belgrave clubs, Mostmann's, has thankfully been resolved. Those eating in the private room, reopened last week in the yellow and purple colours of its new sponsors, Veuve Clicquot, had been quite put off Anton Mostmann's culinary delights by the view of the gents' opposite. A firm taking over the building backing onto the club did not realise that all could be seen through the window when the lights were on.

"We tracked down the new

people, but they refused to believe we could see through the window as it is painted white," says Ava Barkasz, Mostmann's manager. "We invited their managing director over one evening and he ordered his staff to go into the loo while he watched. He was horrified. A blind was promptly installed."

Litter bugs

FLY-TIPPERS are the bane of Lord Gisorsburg's life. Only rarely does he catch someone red-handed on his Cleveland estate, he told his fellow peers debating the Government's environment Bill. But the county's Lord Lieutenant recently scored a bullseye.

"I caught one person tipping a lot of stuff and I told him that he must come with me to the police station," puffs Gisorsburg. "He was a policeman. Therefore I made him pick up twice as much as he had tipped and left it at that."

On the ball

IS THE Princess of Wales changing her allegiance? Her Royal Highness has long been regarded by the Welsh rugby squad as their unofficial "mascot". She loyally travelled to Paris last month for



Carlton: invited the Princess to Twickenham

their match against France, and will be at Cardiff Arms Park this Saturday when Wales play Ireland. But last Saturday, Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Princes William and Harry, unexpectedly turned up at Twickenham to watch England's squad undergo a strenuous training session in private. England's captain, Will Carling, had invited her when they had lunch together last month at Chel-

sea's Harbour Club, where they both exercise.

The royal trio certainly perked up the squad, and their interest in the two-hour session was clearly genuine. "Afterwards they chatted to the players," says my man at Twickers, "and they obviously knew their stuff."

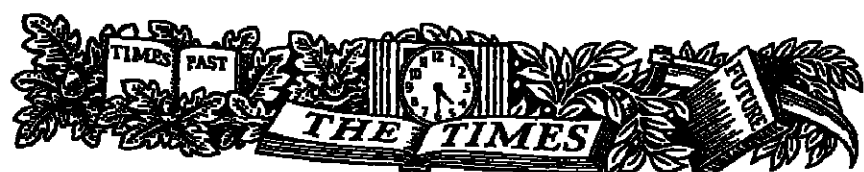
P.H.S.

THE TIMES AGAIN
DANGER

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DANGERS OF DEFEATISM

The Tories have to regain their nerve

Conservative politicians have lost the will to win. It shows in their faces, their voices and most of all in their silences. Barely a minister is now heard trumpeting the Government's achievements; most can hardly bring themselves to protest that yes, they can beat Labour at the next election. There is a desperate search for new ideas, and little sense of direction.

Backbenchers are restless again. Their spirits rose briefly in January after the Labour Party split over education and John Major seemed to recover his confidence. The Prime Minister's new Euro-scepticism cheered the majority of his party. But within weeks, the Cabinet was publicly split over a single currency, and gloom re-enveloped the party. Murmurings are heard once more about the leadership, and MPs are waiting masochistically for the expected rout in May's local elections.

After 15 years in power, with the Labour Party an easy target. Conservatives have almost lost the skill of opposition. Tony Blair has had far too easy a ride since he became leader. Only after repeated prodings has the Prime Minister now agreed to set up a "rapid reaction force" under Viscount Cranborne to expose inconsistencies in Labour's plans for constitutional reform.

To win an election, a party leader needs a sense of purpose, a certain charisma and an evident lust for power. Margaret Thatcher never lacked these attributes, and many people voted Conservative despite, as well as because of, her views. The only leader displaying these qualities at the moment is Mr Blair, which may explain the defection of millions of voters to Labour.

On Friday the Labour leader demonstrated his determination with a passionate speech to a half-hostile audience at the Scottish Labour Party conference. He suggested that he was prepared to stop at nothing to win the next election. Mr Blair was rewarded with support for his proposal

to rewrite Clause Four of the party constitution, despite great misgivings among traditional activists. The reworded clause will be approved by his National Executive Committee today.

The Conservatives need to be under no illusions: at the next election, they will be facing the most determined and acceptable Labour opponent since the 1960s. But that is no reason to let the election go by default. For, even if the Tories cannot easily expect to gain a fifth consecutive term, the size of their defeat matters greatly — and not just to those MPs whose seats would be lost in a landslide.

The biggest danger is that, in government, those leftwingers who kept quiet for the sake of a Labour victory will reassert themselves. They are not all Blairites now in the Labour Party; such a conversion will, if it happens, take a good ten years to achieve. People forget how vulnerable Mrs Thatcher was in her first few years in office. Thatcherism was vigorously opposed by many backbenchers, senior Cabinet ministers and much of the party. True believers were in a minority, and the quest for consensus was still generally accepted to be the rule of politics. That she survived the onslaught of the "wets" and went on to convert her party was thanks mainly to her large majority.

But for Mr Blair, surrounded by a party in Parliament and the country that is still unsure about modernisation, a large majority might be a danger. The arguments about public spending would be as ferocious as any that the Tories have had over Europe. Mr Blair will need the disciplines of a small majority and the need to retain Liberal Democrat support in order to hold on to the leadership and govern Britain responsibly.

So there is much at stake. A party that succumbs to defeatism hastens its own demise. Voters begin to despise it and the gloom multiplies. If the Tories do not regain their nerve soon, they will deserve to lose. But the country does not deserve to be so abandoned.

HIGH-TECH BONDS

Information technology can be a builder of communities

In recent years, an important dialogue has developed between British and American thinkers on the future of civic society. Lessons of education reform in East Harlem and "reinvented government" across the United States have been heeded in London think-tanks. Washington policymakers have watched the development of the Citizen's Charter and absorbed the ideas of British writers such as David Selbourne, John Gray and David Willets with fascination. At a time of general disillusionment with Western politics, this transatlantic dialogue has become a positive force.

Tonight, *The Times* and the think-tank Demos are hosting a lecture by the American founder of the Communitarian Movement, Amitai Etzioni. In America, his practical suggestions for a new "centre course, where individual rights and social responsibilities are properly balanced" has proved influential among progressive Democrats. In this country, Dr Etzioni's beliefs are also finding favour among Labour modernisers. Libertarians in both countries remain suspicious of his arguments as thinly-veiled statism. In fact, Dr Etzioni's ideas suggest an interesting shift among centre-left thinkers away from the assumption that the State will always provide, and towards a practical interest in civic institutions and voluntary action.

A cross-party consensus is emerging that more government is not always a good idea and may often be a bad one. Greater attention is being paid, accordingly, to the role of civic institutions, such as schools, charities and other groups which command local loyalty and inspire action. The voluntary ethic is no longer merely respectable; it is increasingly seen by theorists and policymakers as the principal foundation stone of a stable society. Politicians across

the spectrum now speak of duties as often as they speak of rights.

Yet it is not enough to demand a return to the traditions of an alleged moral golden age. To do so, indeed, can be completely counter-productive, as the "back to basics" fiasco illustrated. The call for civic regeneration must be addressed to the world as it is, rather than to the world as we imagine it used to be. On this basis, some have argued that modern society is too fragmented, the flow of capital too hectic and economic insecurity too great for such regeneration. The information society, they allege, cannot be a stable society.

On our Agenda page today, James Pinkerton, the American conservative thinker and former White House adviser, makes a spirited case against this claim. Mr Pinkerton has long argued that a "new paradigm" of cost-effective, responsive government is emerging. Now he is taking issue with the argument that "the pulverising forces of modernity" spell doom for traditional social structures. As he observes, this argument often proves to be little more than a plea for old-fashioned protectionism.

More importantly, there is no reason to assume that information technology will necessarily be hostile to the cohesion of communities. To say that computers encourage solitary behaviour, for example, is too glib. In time, the opposite may prove to be true. Technology is already fostering group identity in all sorts of subtle ways. The prodigious success of faxes, e-mail and the Internet in the workplace has shown that exchange of information can define community as readily as place, politics or religion. The idea of an "electronic town hall" may prove unrealistic. But, in principle, it is no more to be scorned than a parent-teacher association or church group.

COOKS AND SPOOKS

America will soon run out of candidates for public office

There can barely be a person worthy of public life in America who has never flirted with a colleague, said or written something controversial, hired an illegal immigrant to do the ironing, failed to pay tax on a babysitter, or drunk too much. Congress's misguided quest for blamelessness has now impaled another victim: Air Force General Michael Carns, who announced over the weekend that he was withdrawing as nominee for Director of the Central Intelligence Agency after allegations that he might have illegally helped the nephew of his Filipino cook to obtain a visa.

General Carns withdrew with great regret. "Unfortunately, in today's confirmation proceedings one is innocent until nominated," he lamented. "Thereafter one must struggle to prove innocence. This is a very serious and growing deterrent in attracting good people willing to serve their country." His replacement as nominee did not even want the job: President Clinton had to plead with him to change his mind. But the great advantage of John Deutch, Deputy Defence Secretary, is that the FBI has already raked over his private life for his current position, so confirmation should be easier.

It is the Democrats' fault that these hearings are now proving such an ordeal. Their rejection of Judge Robert Bork and near-rejection of Judge Clarence Thomas as

Supreme Court Justices led to a retributive atmosphere in which partisan politics have overtaken judgments about competence. Political opponents will now jump on any misdemeanour, however slight, to bar a nominee from a job.

The result is that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find Americans willing to enter public life. Hardly any career woman, for instance, is likely to have kept to the letter of the law by paying social security for any household employee earning more than \$50 a quarter. That would cover a once-a-month babysitter. According to the Internal Revenue Service, three-quarters of the two million American households that employ domestic help fail to pay the required taxes.

Attempts to demand perfection of all presidential appointees will continue for as long as relations between the Republican-led Congress and the Democratic White House are as sour as they are today. Revenge is sweet, and it would be unreasonable to expect Republicans not to try to exact it from Democrats who are up for overly party-political jobs. But the directorship of the CIA should be a non-partisan appointment. And, with the end of the Cold War and the necessary shrinkage in the agency, it is a post that is extremely hard to fill. Congress should be grateful that there is still a candidate willing to take on this thankless but important task.

Search for causes of Barings crash

From Mr Michael Barrett

Sir, David Whitby of the BCCI Private Study Group (letter, March 8) says that Capcom Financial Services Ltd, which acted as a broker to BCCI in 1984 and 1985, "appears to have remained 'unregulated' and is still actively trading in futures and derivatives". As solicitor to Capcom Financial Services Ltd, I must point out that Capcom has not so traded since 1989, when it was regulated.

Mr Whitby also believes that the Bank of England allowed BCCI to "continue trading for another five years after the massive fraud in its treasury operations had been uncovered". It was a loss that was uncovered; fraud wasn't uncovered until much nearer the time of the bank's closure.

Apparently on the basis that BCCI ran up trading losses (nothing to do with Barings's losses), and that it would be possible for one rogue trader to create profits using interest-rate swaps (nothing to do with Barings's losses), Mr Whitby argues that "clearly there must have been a conspiracy to defraud Barings, involving more than one 'rogue trader' in Singapore".

I would remind Mr Whitby that on any given day a proportion of the financial community (as of the population at large) is going to be dishonest, foolish, lazy, over-promoted, hung-over, deranged or distracted by a row at breakfast. In the same proportion, employees will continue to commit fraud, managers will continue not to notice, and regulators will continue doing the crossword.

No one can yet say "clearly" what was the cause of the collapse of Barings. Listing imaginary causes only confuses the matter further.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL BARRETT,
Barrett's (solicitors),
107 Gray's Inn Road, WCI.

From Mr John Disley

Sir, It is interesting to recall that on the collapse in 1720 of the South Sea Company — a hybrid of the Bank of England and the East India Company — "no reproaches were too bad for the directors". (*London in the Eighteenth Century* by Sir Walter Besant, A & C. Black, 1925).

Lord Molesworth said in the House that they should be "tied in a sack and thrown into the sea". Two of the directors, Jacob Sawbridge and Sir Theodore Janssen, were expelled from the House of Commons and committed to the Tower. Another director had to disgorge a quarter of a million pounds. One director, Edward Gibbon's grandfather, had to give up £50,000 of a £60,000 estate.

Sentences of this severity, if imposed today, would certainly encourage meticulous management of other people's money.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DISLEY,
Hampton House,
Upper Sunbury Road,
Hampton, Middlesex.

From Mr P. D. Chinn

Sir, It is just as impossible for professional gamblers to make a living by playing only with each other as it is for them to make a living by taking in each other's washing.

The only way it has ever been, or ever will be, possible to make a continuing income from gambling is by having access, directly or indirectly, to a continuing supply of suckers who bring in money derived from more productive sources.

Who are the mugs who fund the exciting work and high lifestyle of derivative traders? Also — perhaps morally a more important question — where do the traders and their boards of directors think that the money comes from?

Yours faithfully,
PETER CHINN,
116 Aldenham Road,
Bushey, Hertfordshire.

From Mr E. T. H. Pease-Watkin

Sir, I deeply resent both the statement by Pennington (March 7) that those who invested in Barings's £100 million debt issue knew that they were taking a higher than average risk and the implied conclusion that they therefore deserve little or no consideration.

On our stockbroker's advice, my wife and I invested £30,000 in this issue, thinking that the name of Barings guaranteed security. My wife is a retired school secretary, I am a retired schoolmaster. By careful living, we had saved this money for our four children. We were not and are not risk-takers: it was Barings who risked and lost our capital.

I hope that it is not too late for ING to think again and repay those who are the innocent victims in this affair.

Yours faithfully,
E. T. H. PEASE-WATKIN,
The Coopers, High Street,
Leintwardine,
Craven Arms, Shropshire.

From Mr C. A. Mackenzie Smith

Sir, Barings Bank lost £700 million. There was an immediate inquiry. In five years Lloyd's of London has lost an estimated £10.5 billion — more than 15 times as much. Yet, in spite of all requests, the Government has steadfastly refused any inquiry. Is it afraid of the truth?

Yours faithfully,
C. A. MACKENZIE SMITH,
Holwell Manor, Sherborne, Dorset.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Crossed line over new phone codes?

From Mr Richard D. G. Cox

Sir, Eric Reguly was right to point out ("Ofset to bring in more new dialling codes", report, *Business News*, March 7) that the new codes will cause confusion. The fact that their users will have to dial 11 digits on every call will also lead to a degree of inconvenience. But for the business community in particular there is a greater problem: the introduction of these codes will itself create a serious constraint to competition.

The fact that existing numbers are short, and have a positive identity with their location, is seen as attractive — in particular to small and medium enterprises which want to present their identity as local to their particular community. When seeking a plumber, florist, or taxicab company, potential customers instinctively search the local phone book for a number that seems local to their location, and such numbers will therefore continue to be in demand.

In cities such as Reading and Belfast there is already a serious shortage of new blocks of numbers, and under Ofset's proposals phone companies would in future only be issued with the new 11-digit, type of number for those areas. This would not only constrain competition between telephone users, but — since customers wanting local numbers would no longer have a realistic choice of supplier — would also constrain competition between the telephone companies themselves.

We may expect similar problems for competition in the long-distance telecommunications market, as it may not be possible with the new codes to identify the destination tariff band from the initial digits of the number. For example, the proposed code 0230 (not 01230) will include Redhill (which, from London, is a local call) as well as Eastbourne (which, from London, is a "national long distance" call).

This will mean that businesses which use "Network Breakout", Energis or Mercury Smart Boxes, or similar least-cost routing equipment, will no longer be able to select the most appropriate network for their calls.

And yet the Telecommunications Act 1984, which clearly sets out the duty of the Director-General of Telecommunications to promote competition, remains on the statute book.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD COX
(Managing Director),
Mandarin Technology,
PO Box 111,
Penarth, South Glamorgan.
March 9.

From Mr C. L. Kauffmann

Sir, The United States has some 265 million telephones — approximately 1,030 per 1,000 population, as against

some 38 million in the UK, or 660 per 1,000 population. In addition, there are far more faxes, telexes and modems — mostly requiring a distinct telephone number — in the States than in this country.

All telephone numbers in the United States have seven digits, the first three denoting the exchange as, for example, in London. All area codes there have only three digits and cover a much greater number of telephone numbers, and in many cases a far bigger area than in this country.

The American telephone system, whether A. T. & T. or any of its competitors, is the most comprehensive and efficient in the world. Why, may I ask, could we not have adopted the same seven-digit number, three-digit area code system in this country, instead of this utter nonsense that we are being lumbered with?

Yours faithfully,
CLAUDE KAUFFMANN,
Stable Cottage, Elstead Road,
Seale, nr Farnham, Surrey.
March 1.

From Dr Brian Posner

Sir, Your report today has relieved my perplexity. It seemed obvious from the outset that the investment in time and resources which "Phoneday" entails will not *per se* create any additional telephone numbers. I could only conclude that the experts knew something which was not apparent to me and that this exercise was all worthwhile.

We are told at last that at least one and perhaps several more changes will be necessary in order to achieve the desired result. It does not seem unreasonable to inquire why this could not have been made clear when the initiative was first announced and particularly why at least the first two stages could not have been amalgamated. This would have avoided much expense and inconvenience, even if taking a little longer, and would of course have created the extra stock of numbers at a stroke.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN POSNER,
39 Moor Crescent,
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.
March 7.

From Mrs Mona Clark

Sir, I recently obtained a Mercury Calling Card to allow me to make private calls from my place of work. Almost all these calls are to my family, three sons who live in London. The extra digit means that to connect with any one of them I now feed in 42 different digits instead of 41. Such is progress.

Yours etc,
MONA CLARK,
23 Strawberrybank, Dundee, Tayside.
March 8.

Troubled by beliefs

From Mrs Ira E. Whiteley

Sir, Though I am not really a fan of Matthew Parris (column, March 6; letters, March 9) I do defend his right to be "troubled" by the language and imagery of Christianity and the Church. It can only enhance his godson's spiritual life to have a godfather who questions the validity of the more negative aspects of religion.

Christianity enshrines an ethic of love, joy and human dignity which is denied to many people because they are unable to accept the medieval language in which it is still expressed.

I want a democratic God who accepts me for what I am: an imperfect creature who nevertheless wants to share with him in the perfecting of an imperfect world (of his own creating). But I do not want to grovel in fear or even to be told it is OK because God loves me and because Jesus died upon the Cross for me.

There is far too much obvious suffering in the world for me not to know that the suffering of God will continue and part of that suffering is the struggle for a new expression for God's message of incarnate love. We in the Church let God down if we sit back in apathetic acceptance of the views of blinkered literal traditionalists.

If there was a time to be troubled in the Church that time is now. I hope Gordon follows in the footsteps of his godfather and is troubled by his religion.

Yours sincerely,
IRA E. WHITELEY,
123a Shevington Lane,
Shevington, Wigan, Lancashire.

From Dr Nigel Biggar

Sir, Matthew Parris despairs of the Christian ethic because of the reason

— or, to be more exact than he, one of the reasons — that Jesus gives us for doing what's right: namely, to save ourselves from the fires of Hell. Instead, arguing along quasi-Kantian lines, he contends that "people should behave well because they are personally convinced that this is right".

This is perfectly true, as far as it goes. Conveniently, however, it stops short of the crucial question, namely, "Why should we do what we know to be right?"

In the end the only satisfactory answer is, "Because it benefits me", or better, "Because it serves my good". But doesn't this make our care for others only a pretence, since it is really ourselves that we are looking out for?

Not necessarily. If we think of our good primarily in terms of maximising our exclusively private possession of material security and social power, then it would be. But if we think of it as consisting primarily in, among other things, caring for our neighbour, then it wouldn't be.

Self-interest is not the same thing as selfishness. And it is perfectly consistent to reckon it to be in our own interests precisely *not* to be selfish.

So when Jesus urges us to do right lest we pitch ourselves into the fires of Hell, he is simply giving this positive reason in its negative form. For if it is true that we should behave well for the sake of promoting our good (properly, socially conceived) then it is equally true that we should do so in order to avoid damaging it.

And sometimes that damage can be irreparable and everlasting. Hence the gravity and the dignity of human moral choice.

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL BIGGAR
(Chaplain),
Oriel College, Oxford.
March 7.

Antarctic ice

From Mr Thomas Morton and Mr Richard Leftley

Sir, The calving of an iceberg the size of Oxfordshire from the Antarctic Peninsula has given rise to predictions of a catastrophic collapse of the Antarctic ice sheets (reports, February 27, 28; letters, March 6).

We do not question that global temperatures are rising but do not believe that this will have an adverse effect on Antarctica. Antarctica is a desert with minimal precipitation; it is also a continent surrounded by ocean.

Rising temperatures will increase evaporation from the Southern Ocean leading to a rise in snowfall. As a result the ice caps will increase in size. Studies have shown that the east Ant-

arctic ice sheet may withstand a 13C rise in temperature and the west Antarctic ice sheet a 9C rise before they reduce in volume.

Evidence from the Pliocene era shows that when global temperatures were warmer than at present the ice sheets were in a stable condition. In times when environmental concerns are at their height the alternative hypotheses as to the future of Antarctica should be given consideration.

Yours faithfully,
T. S. D. MORTON
RICHARD LEFTLEY,
45/5 Lauderdale Street,
Marchmont, Edinburgh 9.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

BBC helps Afghan health campaign

From Dr S. Runa Graber

Sir, As we prepare for the second and third rounds of the national vaccination campaign this spring in Afghanistan, we are pleased to note that the success of the last round drew international attention.

With reference to the kind letter written by Dr A. John Robertson (January 31) we would like to add mention of the vital role played by the BBC World Service in mobilising the Afghan people.

The regular evening Pushtu broadcast by BBC World Service of international news along with special reports about Afghanistan is probably the most popular newscast among the Afghans.

As a public service to the Afghans the BBC advertised the national vaccination campaign during this Pushtu evening news programme.

While the usual methods of posters, loudspeakers on cars, local radio and television were utilised before and during the campaign, the BBC advertisement of the campaign during its evening news broadcast clearly deserves credit for creating an unprecedented demand for vaccinations among the people of Afghanistan.

Even after the campaign the vaccination posts continued to be busy with queues of children with their mothers. For the second and third rounds at the end of April and May of this year, respectively, we are pleased to be able to count on the co-operation from the BBC in this most important service for the Afghan people.

Sincerely yours,
S. RUNA GRABER
(Social Mobilisation Committee,
Afghan Vaccination Campaign),
Ministry of Public Health,
Ansari Watt, Kabul,
Islamic State of Afghanistan.
March 5.

Irish issues

From Mrs Jean E. Handscorn

Sir, The Reverend Paul Rowntree Clifford (letter, March 3) criticises "negative" Ulster Unionist politicians.

Forgiveness and reconciliation is a private and personal matter and has been demonstrated by many people from both traditions in Northern Ireland. Unionist politicians' main task is to uphold the union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Irish Government lays claim to Northern Ireland and there are vast stocks of terrorist weapons ready for use by the IRA in the south of Ireland. One may disagree with the tactics of the Unionists but not their commitment.

In Britain many people dislike the encroaching powers of the European Union. It is referred to as "loss of sovereignty". Is this also "paranoia", to use Mr Clifford's term?

Yours faithfully,
JEAN E. HANDSCORN,
69 Downs Wood,
Epsom Downs, Surrey.
March 6.

From Captain F. M. A. Torrens-Spence, RN (ret'd)

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Higham writes (March 3) that "the Protestant majority in Ulster unreasonably oppressed the Catholic minority for many years".

Since the Irish Free State opted out of the UK in 1921 the Protestant minority there has diminished by about two thirds, whilst the Catholic minority in Ulster has increased in numbers.

Is this not the true measure of where the worst oppression took place?

Yours faithfully,
F. M. A. TORRENS-SPENCE,
Drumcullen House,
Ballydugan, Downpatrick, Co Down.
March 4.

Silencing Sir John

From Dr J. A. Bland

Sir, Letters on March 4 insist that Sir John Banham carefully consulted the people when he chaired the inquiry into the structure of local government. I think he set himself an impossible task.

Most people, I suspect, were bored by the questions, others were baffled by the intangible options and the doubtful cost projections; the remaining few who tried to answer were guided (spoon-fed?) by lobbies within existing local government. The result could not be described as the will of the people.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BLAND,
Coach House, Matson Drive,
Remenham,
Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire.
March 7.

A moral question

From Mr Julian Critchley, MP for Aldershot (Conservative)

Sir, Is it not high time that the Government Chief Whip, Mr Richard Ryder, should summon Conservative MPs to his office in order that we should take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience?

Yours etc,
JULIAN CRITCHLEY,
House of Commons.
March 10.



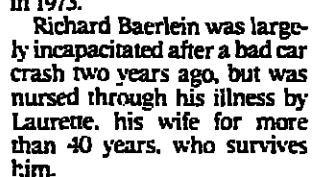
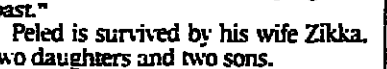
1990, the American Bar Association is also urging that the President's proposal to make the use of back-discriminations to shareholders, without regard to whether the stock was made by the date of passage.

The Director's sworn declaration of testimony for all the states which are members of the Henry Association and Citizens Group, do not have any financial interest in the stock and are not affiliated with the financial position of the company or a stockholder.

San Francisco
September
7 March 1995

RICHARD BAERLEIN

In 1946 he travelled to London to study law but returned home in 1948



It was no coincidence that

Bernays had the idea of creating a "sociological fund," involving leaders of politics,

The list was soon impressive: Procter & Gamble, General Electric, the United Fruit Company, General Motors

Unlike many of those who have followed him, Bernays believed that, in his manipulation of mass opinion, a public relations counsellor should never promote a cause out of

At least one of his successful campaigns gave him cause for later regret. His promotion for Lucky Strike cigarettes, call-

Unable to lead as active a life as he might have wished, he turned to writing and drawing. He wrote poetry and three years ago had privately published a collection of his verse, which he illustrated with his own sketches. It was called *After Desert Storm* — the Allied code name for the Gulf War operation against Iraq — after one poem which caricatured Saddam Hussein.

Rollo Price is survived by his wife Diana, whom he married 50 years ago this year, and by three daughters.

0171-782 7344

[illegible]

Well before dawn people were hurrying in all parts of Rome in the direction of St. Peter's and at 6 o'clock, when the Basilica was opened, thousands were already waiting at the doors. Inside the walls were all dressed in festive crimson streamers. The ancient

commemoration is arranged in St Peter's on occasions for some 40,000, and every year in the numerous stands and enclosures that have been filled. During the long wait had time to meditate on the solemn fact that the central figure of this ceremony was about to be consecrated, at an age when most people are gladly exchanging work for ease and leisure, to a life of arduous and unremitting

As the procession slowly advanced — the shouts and clapping drowning the chanting of the choir — came another impressive piece of symbolism. The Master of the Pontifical Ceremonies, walking immediately in front of the litter, burned pieces of tow in a small brazier, raised high on a silver wand, reciting slowly three times: *Pater sancte, sis transi gloria mundi*, to remind the Pope that amidst all the glory and worship surrounding him he was but mortal...

NEWS

New Clause 4 backs private sector

Tony Blair and John Prescott completed their break with Labour's past by agreeing a new constitution that backs a thriving private sector and rejects union demands for the party to commit itself to providing jobs for all.

In a meeting at the Labour leader's London home the chief representatives of Labour's modernising and traditionalist wings drew up a new Clause Four that recognises the discipline of competition and consigns its traditional socialist creed to the dustbin. Pages 1, 18

Howard plans to scrap probation orders

Michael Howard will outline proposals this week for a radical shake-up in sentencing in which probation orders will be scrapped and courts given new powers to impose tough new community sentences. Page 1

Bethlehem visit

Norma Major, who is accompanying her husband on a visit to Israel, has insisted against her hosts' advice on going to Bethlehem, on the occupied West Bank, without Israeli security protection. Pages 1, 12, 19

Oxford reform row

Oxford dons are divided over plans for a new system that would sweep away the tradition of a "community of scholars" and encourage them to compete for status. Page 1

Adams talks anger

John Major has delivered a thinly veiled criticism of President Clinton's decision to meet Gerry Adams before the Sinn Féin president had renounced violence. Page 2

Treasure charges

A detective and two antique dealers were facing theft charges after a nine-month police operation to smash a racket in looted treasure from Egypt and China. Page 3

Hopes for cancer girl

The family of the 10-year-old girl suffering from leukaemia spent the weekend preparing her for the potentially life saving medical treatment. Page 3

Ashdown attacks cuts

Paddy Ashdown has told the Liberal Democrat spring conference that education cuts will be "the poll tax of 1995". Page 9

Villagers unite to sink canal plan

An ambitious plan to dig out an old canal to link the centre of Basingstoke with The Thames 37 miles away is facing three obstacles: a colony of bats, the M3 and the wrath of the residents of Old Basing, the holder of the title of best-kept village in Hampshire. "Historically the canal kept drying up. It is just madness", one villager said. Page 8

TV children's charter

The BBC has drawn up an international Children's Television Charter, designed to highlight the need for more diverse and stimulating programming. Page 6

ANC 'betrayal'

Winnie Mandela has claimed that she has been betrayed by plotters within the African National Congress. Page 12

Clinton under fire

Senior Republicans said that White House bungling was undermining America's global stature after President Clinton had to withdraw his nomination of Michael Carns for director of the CIA. Page 10

Eight die in floods

At least eight people died and the main link between Los Angeles and San Francisco was cut by floods as violent storms immobilised much of California. Page 10

UN troops may stay

President Tudjman of Croatia seemed to relent in his edict that UN troops must leave his republic, but left the role and composition of future peacekeepers there in doubt. Page 13

Poor sidelined

Leaders of the world's most impoverished countries were effectively sidelined at the United Nations summit pledged to help the poor. Page 13



Heady stuff: The Archbishop of Canterbury with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other Anglican leaders in London yesterday. Page 8

Bairings: As the new owner starts to remove key Singapore directors, London's regulator for securities and futures trading has vowed that anyone found to be to blame for the disaster would be banished from the City. Page 44

City optimism: A three-year research project commission by the Corporation of London has found that the City's accumulated advantages as the world's leading international financial centre make it invulnerable to rising continental competition. Page 44

Pensions: Amendments to the Pensions Bill would oblige courts to take account of pension rights in divorce settlements but would stop short of forcing them to be shared formally. Page 44

Leading role: Ben Kingsley has found another harrowing role in *Death and the Maiden*. Page 17

Beating the Customs: Libby Purves on the card game which taught a generation the subtle art of lying and cheating. Page 17

The X factor: The riddle posed by the discovery of the gene that makes men homosexual. Page 16

Schools' truce: The uproar about budgets for schools may have quietened down, but fresh controversies lie ahead for Gillian Shephard. Page 37

Fatal attraction: The Royal Opera's new production of *Salome* is a terrifying study of a family of degenerates. Bryn Terfel and Catherine Malfitano send a chill through the house. Page 14

Musical notes: If you want to make it in a West End musical these days, you have to excel at singing, dancing and acting. Page 15

What if: Noël Coward set out to imagine how the British might have endured a Nazi occupation. *Peace in Our Time*, now revived, is the result. Page 15

Menotti prize: The Italian composer Gian Carlo Menotti has been awarded the 1995 Montebelluna di Cultura Award for Europe for his role as founder of two music festivals. Page 15

TOMORROW

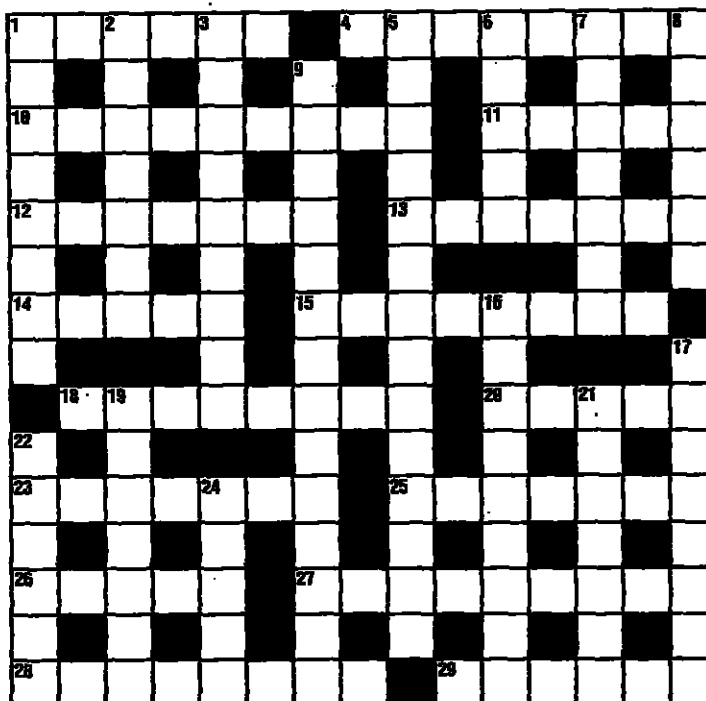
IN THE TIMES

TV CLOWN
Matthew Bond is tickled by Ken Dodd's happiness

BERNARD LEVIN
Where runs the line between a mountain of mistakes and a pack of monumental bloody fools?



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,801



- ACROSS**
- Not showing enthusiasm for work in China (6)
 - Makes progress by personal overtures (8)
 - Army cadets in school get urge for savoury snack (6,3)
 - Card sharp secures introduction to others (5)
 - Surprise concerning a French Democrat (7)
 - Submit an account as directed, returning charge (7)
 - Finish bowling, facing a side that's short (3,2)
 - Bird having brood by heather (8)
 - Church about to close a drunken get-together (8)
 - Settle a match (5)
 - One who helps to improve on article (7)
 - Publicity hand out on plane perhaps (7)
- DOWN**
- Cottage for two? Yes, to begin with (5)
 - Huge robin flying in border (9)
 - Take someone else's place on the way back to show interest in the river (8)
 - Haughty cardinals coming to dubious conclusion (6)
 - Motorway's followed in error (8)
 - Shot without appeal finally, having conspired (7)
 - Tour can travel within normal limits by night (9)
 - Buckle shield on, seeing attempt to resist (3,4,5,2)
 - Agent has no opening for performer (5)
 - Short number incorporating first-class end to show (7)
 - Poster — or an easy one? (6)
 - Conductor's means for early guidance of principal violinists perhaps (7-7)
 - He's involved in valiant struggle to secure monster (9)
 - See flower is brought in out of the wind (8)
 - Dance not lasting very long? (7)
 - Dispose of stock cheaply — market disappointing (4,3)
 - Spiky plant under rail (6)
 - Lovers' meeting in Coventry street (5)



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,800 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
North London	702
South London	703
West London	704
East London	705
North East	706
West Midlands	707
East Midlands	708
South East	709
West Midlands	710
North East	711
West Midlands	712
East Midlands	713
South East	714
West Midlands	715
North East	716
West Midlands	717
East Midlands	718
South East	719
West Midlands	720
North East	721
West Midlands	722
East Midlands	723
South East	724
West Midlands	725
North East	726
West Midlands	727

Weather at 430p and 430p per minute (cheap rate) and 43p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & M25	731
South East	732
West Midlands	733
North East	734
South West	735
North West	736
Yorkshire	737
East of England	738
West of England	739
South Wales	740
North Wales	741
Scotland	742
Ireland	743
Channel Islands	744
Islands	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 43p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday, Highest day temp: London 18C (61F); Lowest day temp: Tisbury, Wiltshire, 7C (45F); Highest night temp: Tisbury, Wiltshire, 12C (54F); Lowest night temp: Tisbury, Wiltshire, 5C (41F).

General: Most of England and Wales will have a dry, bright day, with light winds and temperatures similar to yesterday's. The south and east will have a good deal of sunshine, sometimes hazy, but western coasts may have a little drizzle, especially later on.

Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Mostly fair. Some rain or drizzle later, mainly coasts. Wind southwest light or moderate. Max 10C-12C (50F-54F).

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Bright at first, some rain later. Wind south or southwest moderate or fresh. Max 11C-13C (52F-55F).

NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: Rain or drizzle, heavier and persistent later. Wind southwest strong or gale decreasing. Max 9C-11C (48F-52F).

London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England: Dry with sunny or clear periods. Wind north or northeast light. Max 12C-14C (54F-57F).

E England, W Midlands, NW England, Central N England, NE England: Dry. Bright or sunny spells.

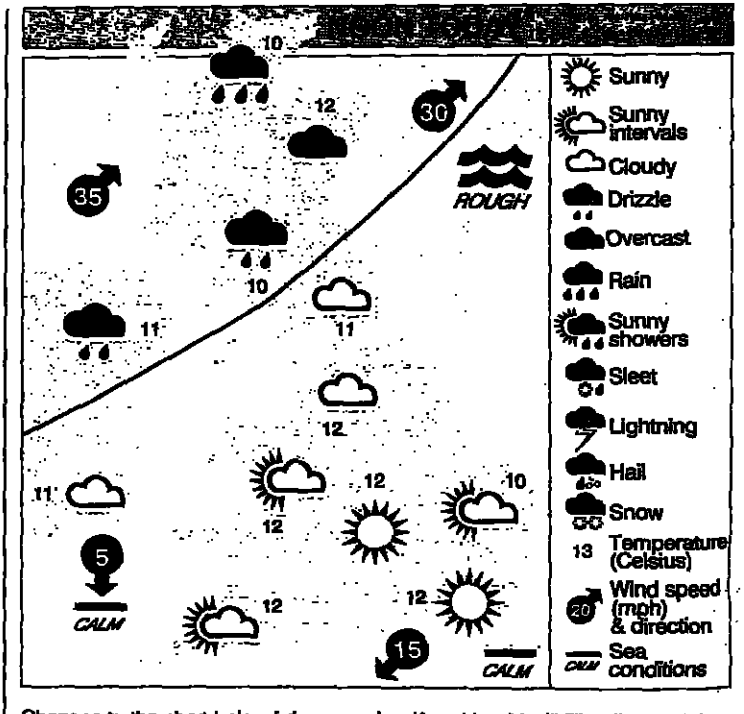
AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Sun	Rain	Cloud	Max	Min
London	7.5	0.2	10	50	3
Anglessey	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
Cardiff	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
Exeter	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
London	7.5	0.2	10	50	3
Cardiff	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
Exeter	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
London	7.5	0.2	10	50	3
Cardiff	4.5	0.05	10	50	3
Exeter	4.5	0.05	10	50	3

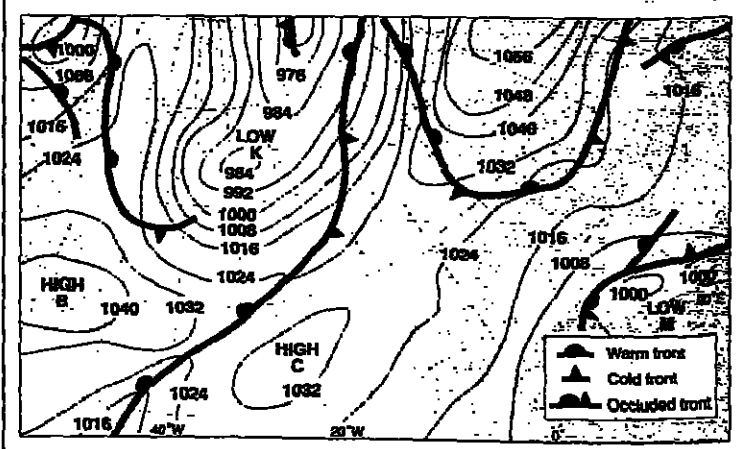
These are Saturday's figures

ABROAD

Area	Sun	Rain	Cloud	Max	Min
Madrid	18	64	21	70	3
Paris	18	64	21	70	3
Rome	18	64	21	70	3
London	18	64	21	70	3
Cardiff	18	64	21	70	3
Exeter	18	64	21	70	3
London	18	64	21	70	3
Cardiff	18	64	21	70	3
Exeter	18	64	21	70	3



Changes to the chart below from noon: low K and low M will fill while remaining almost stationary. High C and high B will stay at about the same central pressure



HIGH TIDES

Area	AM	HT	PM	HT
London	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51
Cardiff	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51
Exeter	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51
London	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51
Cardiff	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51
Exeter	11:04	5:58	11:22	5:51

Copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Area	Sun rise	Sun set
London	6:01	6:18
Cardiff	6:01	6:18
Exeter	6:01	6:18
London	6:01	6:18
Cardiff	6:01	6:18
Exeter	6:01	6:18

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BOXING

FACING

SCHOOLS SPORT

ICE SKATING



25

Hide's title hopes cut to size by Bowe's blows



31

The rise and rise of the magical Festival



33

England teach Brazilians a hard lesson



34

Lu Chen leads Chinese in from the cold

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MARCH 13 1995



Ebbrell, of Everton, manages to get the ball away despite the close attentions of Venison, the Newcastle United defender, during the FA Cup quarter-final encounter at Goodison Park yesterday

Newcastle's FA Cup dream ended by Premiership strugglers

Watson banishes Everton blues

Everton 1
Newcastle United 0

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

EVERTONIANS know the value of faith. Their supporters have suffered in the Premiership in the past two seasons, but now, thanks to them represent 69 years and 1,017 games in the service of the Blues, they are one match away from a trip to Wembley. The goalkeeping of Neville Southall and the opportunism of Dave Watson, the captain, took them through their FA Cup quarter-final yesterday to face Tottenham Hotspur on April 9. Watson's goal, after 66 minutes, came the only way that Everton could beat a Newcastle team of more craft, more movement, more football... in the air from a dead-ball situation.

At the other end, three times Southall stretched to the very limits of athleticism his nerve and his reflexes — those of a kitten rather than the ageing cat that some of us thought him to be. "The dream's over for another year, isn't it?" was Kevin Keegan's brief and solemn observation. "I've nothing more to say, except good luck to Everton."

Nothing more? Surely there is pride to be drawn from, once again, exciting the nation with the effervescence, passion and adventure that characterised Newcastle's attempt to win on a ground so bare and bobbly that every bounce amounted to a lottery.

But where do they go from here? "On the blank bus," Keegan said. "We're out."

His counterpart, Joe Royle, back in a semi-final but with a new club, was lucid and frank. "They were passing it over so well, and it's strange that we got the chances," he said.

"Up to half-time we were standing off and watching them play, but our game had to be to stop them, to get at them. And it was nice to see a game refereed with a smile by a man always on the spot."

Indeed, Keith Cooper had, after the ugliness of Everton's recent brawling visit to Newcastle, surely anticipated an afternoon tougher than the one that obliged him to take only one name, Paul Bracewell, for a blatant foul after 63

minutes. By then the pattern, the contrast, the heart and desire were already ensuring an exhilarating contest.

Southall had made his first reflex save from Kitson in the first minute. After half an hour he used his legs to deflect a shot from Clark. In the fiftieth minute the goalkeeper rushed off his line to deflect the ball from the feet of Clark and, after 79 minutes, he produced his coup de grace.

This was a flying leap, an astonishing aerial movement for so large a man: he flung himself to the right and, at full stretch, pulled the ball down. Once again it was the tireless, eager Clark who, from three yards, was thwarted.

If it was not Southall denying Newcastle, it was the

obdurate Watson, marshalling his rearranged defence with all the experience that comes with his 33 years.

Meanwhile, on the break, the chances fell to Everton. The first, after Ferguson had broken down the left, was created by Limpar. This reinvigorated Swede cut the ball back delightfully. Alas, the uneven surface defeated Ebbrell, the ball struck his shin and rebounded to the safety of Srnicek.

A far more flagrant brace of missed opportunities fell to Barlow. In the first half, prompted by Ferguson, he was left staring at Srnicek from ten yards. It was a clear, inviting opening, but Barlow's hurried shot struck the top of the crossbar. Worse than that,

just on the hour, Barlow was put clear by Ablett. His pace easily burned off Venison and the defender was lucky that his lunging late tackle missed by a mile. He was luckier still that Barlow, one on one with the goalkeeper, pulled his shot woefully across the face of the goal.

So we thought that, with Newcastle's brilliant conception reaping no reward, a replay in the North East was beckoning. Not so. Everyone who has followed Everton's football under Royle knew that a free kick might unhinge the opposition. Without Hinchcliffe, a master of the left-footed free kick, the onus passed to Unsworth.

His job yesterday afternoon had been to play out of

position, to try to match his pace with the lightning quick Gillespie. But now, becalmed, he swung the ball in almost from the halfway line and, inevitably, Ferguson had the beating of Peacock in the air.

The big Scotsman's downward header struck Hotspur full in the face and, before it could bounce to earth, Watson, towering above him, produced a firm header which, although Srnicek got a hand to it, bobbed inside the far post.

We should, after that, have had goals from either side. The blue shirts were garrisoned around their own penalty area, with Southall elastic and commanding. But, on a break the length of the field, Ferguson harried Peacock into error again and tried to chip Srnicek. This time it was the Magpies' goalkeeper who rose to pluck the ball down.

Thus had Ferguson proved again that, at £4 million, the gamble that was his transfer fee is delivering wild and sometimes satisfying fluctuations. Everton wait to see if their plea that his latest sending-off was erroneous. If not, the focal point of every long hoof upfield, misses four matches, with the semi-final tie among them.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): P. Srnicek — M. Hendrie (sub: S. Watson, 76), P. Venison, D. Peacock, J. Beesford (sub: R. Elliot, 50) — K. Gillespie, R. Lee, P. Bracewell, L. Clark, R. Fox — P. Kitson. Referee: K. Cooper (Preston).

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Kinsmann strikes, page 27
Results and tables, page 28
Harsh lesson, page 33

United hot favourites after draw

FA CUP SEMI-FINALS

Manchester United v Crystal Palace or
Wolverhampton Wanderers

Tottenham Hotspur v Everton

Ties to be played on Sunday April 9 at neutral venues

QUARTER-FINAL REPLAY

Wednesday March 22 (7.45pm)

Wolverhampton Wanderers v Crystal Palace

CUP BETTING (Ladbrokes): 6-11: Manchester United, 11-4: Tottenham Hotspur, 6-2: Everton, 16-1: Wolverhampton Wanderers, 25-1: Crystal Palace.

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Slipping away from the politically correct

A moment of madness — call it what you will — but after five days, Chris Howarth's resolve finally cracked. "What a stunner!" he exclaimed the Eurosport commentator, as Nicole Bobek swooped onto the ice in something short, white and tight. "She looks like she's just walked off the set of *Dallas*."

As sexist comments go it was a mild one, but it shattered the unspoken code among male commentators covering the world skating championships in Birmingham, a code that conceals one of the great mysteries of the sporting world. Where have all the ugly skaters gone?

I mean, I'm afraid, the ugly female skaters, the be-rouged Amazons of yesteryear. For while male skaters seem more or less unchanged (traces and

sparkly ties are back in) their female counterparts have been transformed into the sort of heavenly creatures who would be more at home on the catwalk than clinging on to an outside edge. Which is a bit of a problem if you are a male commentator working for a politically correct broadcasting organisation.

Simon Reed, Howarth's partner in the Eurosport commentary box, encountered the problem soon after the satellite channel began its marathon live coverage. A German ice dancer of considerable beauty and inconsiderable costume took to the ice for the compulsory rumba. Reed watched in silence, searching for the appropriate, yet acceptable, phrase to describe the sporting endeavour below. Finally, as she cha-cha-cha'd to a halt, he



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

found it: "Kati Winkler — such an eye-catching competitor."

Marina Kielmann, a figure skater with the endearing habit of falling over during her short programme, brought out another well-worn phrase from the PC commentary code-book. "Such a popular girl," said Reed. "A very popular girl," said Alan Weeks, a few minutes later on BBC's *Sport on Friday*. Popular? She was Grace Kelly on skates.

All I can say is that it was a

good thing that the BBC kept Des Lynam away from the National Exhibition Centre. Instead it dispatched the "popular" Sue Barker to trade skating chit-chat and designer outfits with the "popular" Rob in Cousins. And very good they were too.

Technically, the world championships were a triumph for Jim Reside, the executive producer, and his team. As host broadcaster, the BBC provided pictures for over 50 countries and com-

mentary facilities for on-site commentators from 43 countries. Some 14 cameras covered every corner and angle, including two slow motion cameras to help those of us who can't tell their axes from their salchows. The sound, too, was impressive, picking out the rasp of blade against ice from the aural torture of the musical accompaniment.

But if the BBC provided superb pictures and sound, it was Eurosport that provided the best commentary, with Reed and Howarth trouncing Weeks and Barry Davies on technical merit and probably just holding the edge on artistic impression too. Despite their marathon stints behind the microphone Reed and Howarth were relaxed, informed and knowledgeable. It might have been very

different if the BBC had taken Cousins, its trump card, away from Barker and put him alongside Weeks, who after 38 years in the job may be the voice of British skating but is still no great shakes at explaining its finer points. But it did not — Cousins remained eloquent but under-used.

Instead, it was left to Barry Davies to provide expert analysis of the replays, such as "her skate just stopped and she fell over". Over on Eurosport, Howarth, a former British champion, was picking up details like a split-second, pre-jump wobble. Was it a lutz or a flip — or a flutz come to that? Such technical insight may not always explain the vagaries of the judges, but without it skating will remain a sporting mystery — albeit a good-looking one.

Johnston-Allen turns tables on White

MARK JOHNSTON-ALLEN, who makes a habit of beating snooker's leading exponents, recorded another surprise victory when he beat Jimmy White 5-4 in Bangkok last night to reach the last 16 of the Thailand Open. In three previous meetings with White, Johnston-Allen had been whitewashed twice and had won only three of the 22 frames played. In the quarter-finals of the International Open three weeks ago, White needed only 61 minutes to overwhelm him 5-0.

Although White's safety play last night left a lot to be desired he appeared sure to progress when he established a 4-2 lead, but Johnston-Allen, relying on containment to win the next two frames, then convincingly won the ninth with breaks of 32 and 35.

Jansher's new moves

SQUASH: Jansher Khan, already in a class of his own, appears to be becoming an even better player after his 15-13, 15-8, 15-7 victory over Peter Marshall, of England, in the final of the Portuguese Open (Colin McQuillan writes). Once happy to soak up 100-stroke rallies, Jansher has declared himself too old to go on chasing, and developed a sharp volleying game to counter the often successful attentions of Marshall and Peter Nicol, of Scotland, whom he beat 15-10, 15-5, 15-9, 15-6 in a splendid semi-final.

Whitaker takes jump-off

EQUESTRIANISM: Michael Whitaker, of Britain, riding Everest Two-step, retained the Dortmund Grand Prix yesterday after a six-hour jump-off. Hugo Simon, of Austria, riding Apriort D, was runner-up, followed by Jan Tops, of Holland, on Sonora La Silla. Whitaker maintained a tradition in Dortmund with the seventh Whitaker win in ten years, although his brother, John, has won four times.

Landmark for Steele

BOWLS: Mavis Steele helped Egham to win the Yerton trophy for the first time when they beat Boston 85-62 at Northampton on Saturday (David Rhys Jones writes). Steele, who has turned out for England every year since she was first selected in 1959, when she was in her twenties, was incisive on the green, leading her rink to a 30-10 win over a Boston quartet skipped by Mary Hewison.

Our Lady's keep title

NETBALL: Fifty-four teams converged on Middlesbrough over the weekend for the All England Netball Association national schools final at Brackenhow School and Hall Garth School. The event was contested in three age groups and the most prolific team was Our Lady's Chetwynde, from Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, who scored 103 times in eight games on their way to retaining the under-19 title.

Sampras marches on

TENNIS: Pete Sampras, right, Andre Agassi, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg advanced to the semi-finals of the Newsweek Championships in Indian Wells, California. Sampras, the top seed and defending champion, and Agassi enjoyed straight-set victories. Sampras defeated Todd Martin 6-3, 6-4. Agassi beat Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, 6-3, 6-4.



Top three hold places

ICE HOCKEY: Nottingham Panthers, Sheffield Steelers and Cardiff Devils gained double-figure wins to consolidate their hold on the top three places in the premier division of the British League (Norman de Mesquita writes). In the first division, Trafford Metros suffered a setback to their promotion play-off hopes, losing 5-2 to Telford Tigers. The win secured a play-off spot for the Tigers.

Plenty to Crow about

POINT-TO-POINT: Alistair Crow, the 1993 men's champion, went to the Flint and Denbigh point-to-point with only one winner this season, but came away with five, having won the last four races (Brian Bell writes). Peter Bowen's training club shone at the Brecon, when the previously unsung Royal Saxon won the open and Rhonda Valley a division of the restricted. Both horses came to him this season.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (Spm)	Last snow
AUSTRIA					
Kitzbühel	40-150	good	varied	fair	sun 9/83
Mayrhofen	0-90	good	heavy	cloud	sun 3/73
Salzburg	40-130	fair	heavy	fair	sun 10/93
France					
Avoriaz	310-400	good	heavy	slushy	sun -2/93
Chamonix	120-320	good	moderate	good	fine 1/93
Flaine	185-370	good	varied	slushy	sun 8/93
Switzerland					
St Moritz	190-420	good	heavy	good	fine 8/93
Wengen	30-110	good	heavy	fair	fine 5/83

Sources: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Injury forces luckless Regis to withdraw from final of 200 metres

Jarrett's best fails to produce gold

FROM DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN BARCELONA

TONY JARRETT'S attempt to emerge from the shadow of Colin Jackson ended in disappointment here last night, when he could finish only third in the 60 metres hurdles on the final day of the world indoor championships.

With Jackson opting out, this was Jarrett's big chance to secure his first significant global title, but he was beaten by Allen Johnson and Courtney Hawkins, both of the United States.

Johnson's victory confirmed that he is the coming man of the sprint hurdles, a potential challenger to Jackson's world supremacy. Johnson ended Jackson's 44-race unbeaten sequence last month and has now taken a gold medal from his first appearance at an international championship. He believes it is time the United States regained control of an event which, except for occasional intrusions such as Jackson's, has been dominated by Americans for almost a century. Johnson recorded 7.39sec while Hawkins, with a personal best of 7.41sec, now looks as though, at 27, he may become a world contender outdoors. Jarrett clocked 7.42sec, equalling his best.

Jacqui Aggrey set a British record of 8.01sec in the women's 60 metres hurdles but was only fifth in a race won by Aliuska López, of Cuba, in 7.92sec.

Irina Privalova's victory in the 400 metres gave the Russian her third gold medal in successive world championships, each at a different distance. Having equalled her world record for 60 metres, and broken the European record for 200 metres, this season, she said that those events were "not so interesting". In other words, she needed a fresh challenge. She had won the 60 metres title in 1991 and the 200 metres in 1993 at these biennial championships.

Yesterday she dominated the final, unhesitatingly taking the lead at the bell, even though the opposition included Jearl Miles, the outdoor world champion. The heats and final here were Privalova's first indoor 400 metres races, although she recorded 49.89sec outdoors in 1993 and won the World Cup 400 metres last summer. She won the race in the third quarter, surging away down the back straight winning by more than a second in 50.23sec.

As dominant as Privalova was Maria Mutola, of Mozambique, who recorded her 39th consecutive victory in 800 metres finals. Always leading, never following, Mutola retained her indoor title in 1min 57.62sec and will surely keep



Jarrett, skimming a hurdle in a qualifying heat, had to be content with a bronze medal in yesterday's final. Photograph: Dieter Endlicher

her outdoor one in Gothenburg this summer?

Can there every have been a day like this for the front runners? Not only did Privalova and Mutola succeed by their bold tactics, but several others did too. Clive Terrelong, of Jamaica, kicked for home with 300 metres to go in the 800 metres and won in 1min 47.30sec; Darnell Hall, of the United States, won the men's 400 metres in 46.17sec after leading at the bell; and Regina Jacobs, another American, won the women's 1500 metres after making her move two laps out.

None, though, was more controlled than Gennaro di Napoli, winner of the men's

3000 metres. Di Napoli, the defending champion from Italy, led from the start of the 15 laps. He did not attempt to run away from the field with a fearsome pace; instead he took the sting out of his pursuers gradually before kicking hard with 250 metres to go on to win in 7min 50.89sec.

The withdrawal of John Regis, after qualifying for the 200 metres final, meant that neither of Britain's representatives in the indoor lap completed the course. Solomon Wariso injured a foot and failed to finish his semi-final. Regis was labouring in his semi-final, after a recent hamstring injury, and could see no point in taking his place in the final on Saturday.

The season had started promisingly for Regis, with a British record of 20.47sec in early February. He talked confidently of challenging the world record but his form slipped and Linford Christie took the record instead.

Regis will want to forget his last four assignments, which have ended with letters recorded after his name: DSQ (disqualified), DSQ, DSQ, DNS (did not start). His decision to go back home without staying to support Jarrett, his training partner, was surprising.

Men: 60m: 1, B. Sullivan (Can) 6.48; 2, D. Sullivan (Can) 6.51; 3, R. Garcia (Can) 6.55; 4, M. Greene (US) 6.58; 5, H. Blum (Can) 6.59; 6, G. Mutola (US) 6.63; 7, P. Sherwin (US) 6.64; 8, V. Smith (Can) 6.65; 9, J. Regis (GB) did not start.

200m: 1, G. Mutola (US) 2:08.2; 2, T. Douglas (Can) 2:09.4; 3, S. Kellie (Can) 2:09.8; 4, D. Sullivan (Can) 2:10.9; 5, C. Ochocki (Can) 2:11.9; 6, J. Regis (GB) did not start.

400m: 1, D. Hall (US) 46.17; 2, S. Baskin (US) 46.36; 3, M. Wariso (Ken) 46.48; 4, C. Silva (Port) 46.87; 5, J. Hall (US) 46.93; 6, C. Davis (US) 47.18; Did not qualify: R. Wariso (Ken) 47.68; 7, S. Baskin (US) 47.68; 8, J. Regis (GB) 47.68; 9, J. Regis (GB) 47.68; 10, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 11, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 12, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 13, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 14, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 15, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 16, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 17, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 18, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 19, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 20, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 21, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 22, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 23, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 24, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 25, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 26, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 27, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 28, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 29, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 30, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 31, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 32, M. O'Sullivan (Ire) 47.68; 33, M. 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Queens Park Rangers unable to extend holders in one-sided quarter-final at Old Trafford

United continue to prosper and save on two fronts

DOING the league and FA Cup double was once regarded as impossible in the modern game. Last year, Manchester United became the fourth team to do it this century.

Yesterday, without ever touching their best, they kept on course to repeat the feat, brushing past Queens Park Rangers to reach the semi-finals of the FA Cup. Goals from Lee Sharpe and Denis Irwin brought a comfortable victory in a hard, sometimes niggly, cup-tie.

It is said that the mark of a good team is to win without playing well. By that criterion, United must be a great team indeed, because for the last hour or so yesterday they won while plumbing the depths of mediocrity, at least as a creative force.

Although Sharpe, who had an excellent match, had his moments. Ince, Keane and even Hughes won the plaudits for their hard work and battling qualities rather than any flights of invention. United played well only as long as they needed to — for the 25 minutes it took them to score the first goal. From that moment, the die was cast and even Rangers appeared to accept it.

"It wasn't a happy return to Old Trafford," Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager and once United's guiding light in midfield, said. "We weren't in the game in the first half and, by the time we started to play, we were already out of the match."

Yet Rangers could hardly be blamed if the task overawed them, and it is a mark of United's domination that their chances of repeating the double are being taken seriously. "I think they can do it," Wilkins said. "They certainly have the talent and depth of squad, and they work so hard for one another."

Even with Cole cup-tied and Giggs going off with a calf strain at half-time, the result was a foregone conclusion from the moment Sharpe put them ahead. All Rangers could do then was stop United



Peter Ball watches the English champions stay firmly on course for a second successive double

scoring further goals. They did that well enough but, even before Irwin killed any hope of a recovery eight minutes into the second half, it was all too predictable to be exciting.

"When a defender has the ball, Mark Hughes doesn't let them breathe, and when the ball is played into midfield, he doesn't let the midfield breathe either," Wilkins said admiringly.

United's admiration was also for their visitors' use of



the negative arts. "It was a difficult game for us," Alex Ferguson said. "Those midfield terriers never gave us a moment's peace."

But, in cup-ties, you have to play, too. Rangers, to their own disappointment and that of their supporters, did not until it was too late. "When I came on and saw that sea of blue behind one goal, for the first time in my professional career I felt the hairs prickle on the back of my neck," Simon Barker, one of the midfield terriers, said. "I felt we let them down a bit today."

Rangers were on the back foot from the start as United exploited their pace on the break. Hughes soon released Kanchelskis for a breathtaking 50-yard run. Wilson just cutting him off at the pass.

That set the tone for the opening exchanges. "We tried to get in a Honda 750 to counter Kanchelskis, but we couldn't," Wilkins said.

Soon he, Neville and, inevitably, Hughes, were combining to send Sharpe through on goal. Roberts saving his angled shot with his legs. Rang-

ers survived that one, but Sharpe's aim the next time was irresistible.

Ferguson was booked for a challenge on Irwin by the United corner flag. From the free kick, the ball reached Hughes. Battered and abused all afternoon, Hughes's appetite for the struggle is unquenchable, and he held off McDonald to slip the ball to Giggs. Another short pass found Sharpe, coming up on the outside, and he brushed through Bardsley's weak challenge to beat Roberts low to his left, the ball nestling inside the side-netting, for his first goal since the dramatic equaliser against Barcelona in October.

This one may prove more rewarding. From then on United took the foot off the pedal. The game became bruising. Maddix, Barker, McDonald and Hughes all picking up bookings, and Keane came on to contest the midfield battle before the second goal arrived.

Maddix fouled Hughes, whose swinging left foot caught the defender, provoking an angry exchange of views. Dermot Gallagher, the referee, decided that a long free kick in the centre of the field was punishment enough. Irwin's free kick bending round the wall and beyond Roberts.

That at last brought Rangers into more positive life. McDonald nearly surprising Schmeichel with a header, and the goalkeeper saving safely from Gallen and splendidly from Ferdinand. But, by then, United were saving themselves for battles ahead.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmeichel; G. Neville, S. Bruce, G. Pallister, D. Irwin; A. Kanchelskis, P. Jones, L. Sharpe, M. Hughes, R. Giggs (sub: R. Keane, 45min).

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): A. Roberts, R. Bardsley, D. Maddix, A. McDonald, C. Wilson; A. Ince, I. Holloway, S. Barker, R. Brown (sub: G. Perrett, 61); L. Ferdinand, G. Gallen. Referee: D. Gallagher.



Ince leaps to avoid Roberts during Manchester United's 2-0 victory yesterday

Cowans thrives in the image of his manager

Crystal Palace 1
Wolverhampton W. 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

GRAHAM TAYLOR does not dwell easily on his tenure as the England manager, when he was ultimately assessed by the most cruel of critics as no more than a rancid root vegetable amid a rotting, ailing allotment. He declines most invitations to discuss his international experience and, instead, refers to his fanciful and fruitful rehabilitation at Wolverhampton Wanderers.

And why not? To him, England is but a mere tabloid nightmare, in which fantasy and reality locked horns in fatal embrace. Taylor's eventual admission of defeat, by virtue of his resignation, at least spared him further humiliation in a job that can reduce the strongest of characters to a babbling, expletive-ridden wreck.

At Molineux, in the less brutal yet no less exacting environment of the Endleigh Insurance League first division, Taylor, 50, is redefining his role in football's fickle hierarchy. Though out of the mainstream, away from the prying eye, he cannot resist its lure.

"You bounce back, you have to. I've never lost my appetite," he said. "Wolves is a club with such great tradition and to put on your CV that you have been their manager is something to take great pride in. I love talking about the past here but the challenge of the present is to get the club back to those great days."

Taylor's recuperation from hell and damnation over the past year has not been without grief, despite Wolverhampton's handy fourth place in the first division and persistent progress in the FA Cup. Eight of his first-team players have undergone surgery this season, with John de Wolf, his buccaneering Dutch centre back, joining the casualty list last week.

Molineux might also sparkle amid Sir Jack Hayward's million-pound magnificence and now form the focal point of an appreciative community, but aims and ambitions can remain quaintly parochial.

"The place is a grand banquetting and conference centre where we play football every fortnight and sometimes seem to get in the way," Taylor said. "I'm sure quite a few of our fans would prefer us to complete the league double over Wednesday rather than us reach the FA Cup Final but I understand that."

At Selhurst Park on Saturday, in a notably non-eventful Cup quarter-final, Crystal Palace provided a not so glittering example of what might lie ahead for Wolverhampton. First division champions last season, and held but beaten Coca-Cola Cup semi-finalists this, Palace's grip on the Premiership has proved tenuous since day one.

Alan Smith, the Palace manager, has employed punch-bags, psychologists and hypnotists to convince his players that they can compete in the big league. Yet their youthful exuberance and good intentions have failed to hide an inherent complex of class inferiority that threatens to pull them under.

Smith shuffles his pack diligently, if increasingly desperately, and appeared to have unravelled a winning hand when Dowie swept in Coleman's header in the 54th minute. For 13 minutes, Palace oozed confidence on an apparently unerring path to a second semi-final.

Enter Cowans, 36, who was brought in by Taylor to quietly pass on his vast knowledge yet has been thrust into regular duty through numerical necessity. He bundled over Matthew on the edge of the area, and taking advantage of the leniency of Gary Willard, the referee, he carried a delightful shot past Martyr.

Taylor talked of Cowans's glowing terms of his unstinting enthusiasm and pride in his ability. Of his love of a game that can twist and torture the sanest of souls. He might well have been describing himself.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): N. Martin; G. Southgate, R. Shaw, E. Young, C. Coleman; D. Morrison (sub: J. Humphrey, 70min), D. Fletcher, R. Newman, A. Pearce; I. Dowie (sub: B. Dyer, 82), J. Salsolo.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): M. Stewart; A. Smith, P. Smith, S. Law, A. Thompson; D. Goodwin, M. Ferdinand, G. Cowans, R. Dennison (sub: N. Eriksen, 61); D. Kelly, S. Ball. Referee: G. Willard.

Bolton triumph over tiredness

Bolton Wanderers 1
Middlesbrough 0

By PETER BALL

LIKE all the other great clubs, Liverpool have long known the price of success in English football. Bolton Wanderers, their opponents in the Coca-Cola Cup final, are just discovering it.

On Wednesday, they won their semi-final to reach Wembley for the first time in a leading competition since 1958. On Saturday, they ended a splendid week by beating Middlesbrough, many people's favourites for the Endleigh Insurance League first division championship, to keep up their search for promotion. But by the end, the exertions and the emotion had taken their toll. Greater demands may lay ahead. Already Bolton have two games in hand on Tranmere Rovers, the leaders. The final will add another game to be fitted in. Before that, Bruce Rioch, the Bolton manager, is faced with juggling his club's interests and those of his players.

Unlike the FA Carling Premiership, the Endleigh League does not shut down before the international matches this month. With McAteer, McGinlay and Paatelainen likely to be involved, and possibly Branagan, Rioch is hoping that his players will be released for their game away to Portsmouth the previous Saturday. When they return, he will have only two days to prepare them for the visit to Wembley.

Is it any wonder that footballers in England lose their zest, imagination and technique? Jason McAteer played 71 games last season. If he plays that many this, he'll have played as many games in two seasons as Richard Sneekes played in four in Holland," Rioch said.

"As the extra game is at Wembley, I think we can cope with that," McAteer said with the exuberance of youth, but even he confessed that the players felt tired on Saturday. "It's mental as much as physi-

cal." The result was that Bolton owed their points to sheer grit and a resolute defence rather than their flowing football.

The last time Bolton reached a cup final of note, Nat Lofthouse scored the goals and commanded the headlines, but their success was based on a defence best described as uncompromising. Whether that ruthless trio, Hartle, Banks and Higgins, would have lasted a game in today's climate is doubtful, but if the methods are different, the same unyielding approach lives on.

"If you keep a clean sheet, one goal is enough," Rioch said, and Bolton did just that. Alan Stubbs got the man-of-the-match campaign; Mark Seagraves could easily have done so.

This Bolton team is more creative than the side of the Lofthouse era. McAteer's enthusiasm and the exhilarating skills of Thompson give it flair to back its resolution. On Saturday, both were more reined-in than usual, even though McAteer was moved wider to replace Lee. Rioch sticking to the side which finished the cup semi-final against Swindon.

Thompson created Bolton's two best chances with excellent crosses. Paatelainen converting the first at the far post and only a fine save by Miller denying McAteer from the same position.

From then on it was more like a cup-tie on the cloying mud, but Stubbs and Seagraves held firm. Had Robson survived more than 45 minutes, the outcome might have been different. Robson still looked a class act, every pass finding its target and his one shot hitting the post, with Branagan unsighted and beaten. For all their subsequent pressure, that was the nearest Middlesbrough came to scoring.

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K. Branagan; S. Green, M. Seagraves, A. Stubbs, J. Phillips; J. McAteer, R. Sneekes, M. Patterson (sub: D. Law, 70min), A. Thompson; M. Paatelainen, J. McGinlay. MIDDLESBROUGH (4-3-2-1): A. Miller; N. Cox, N. Patterson, S. Victoria, D. Whyne; G. Robinson (sub: P. Sisto, 62), R. Huxley, R. Robson (sub: J. Moreno, 45); J. Pollock, J. Hendrie; P. Vane. Referee: P. Vane.

Tangerine dream lives on

Shrewsbury Town 0
Blackpool 0

By OLIVER HOLT

LORD HILL knows a thing or two about being knocked off his perch. His statue was taken down from the towering stone column that dominates the Shrewsbury skyline 18 months ago and has lain in a vault in London undergoing restoration ever since. The county council said at the weekend that his return to his eyrie had been delayed again.

The Blackpool team coach passed beneath his erstwhile vantage point on Saturday morning on its way to Gay Meadow. The Lancashire club's struggle to get back to the top has already lasted considerably longer than that of the 19th-century general's stone image and, despite a recent surge up the league, there is still a long way to go. The glory days of Matthews and Mortensen are memories from a different world.

Shrewsbury Town on a wet March afternoon is about as far away from the football big

time as you can get. The setting is lovely: the swollen Severn runs beside the ground, the Abbey of St Peter and St Paul is across the road, flowers spelling "Britain in Bloom" decorate the river bank as it comes into view above a roof protecting a stretch of terracing.

But the ground is dilapidated. The centre portion of seats in the main stand have been ripped out and have not been

replaced. Unfinished building work and boarded-up doors dominate the below-stairs area around the changing-rooms. The pitch, sodden by rain, was hard on the legs and persuaded both teams to rely more on the long ball than their usual passing games.

Blackpool, only one place away from a play-off position in the Endleigh Insurance League second division, created the better chances but could not finish them. They

broke quickly and skillfully on occasion, the best chance falling to Mitchell in the 61st minute, when he stretched for a cross from Ellis but could only divert it over the bar.

The club has stayed faithful to its tangerine strip and one supporter among a thousand or so that travelled from town on a Leicestershire carried a flag bearing the logo "You've been tango'd". Shrewsbury managed to avoid that fate and Blackpool ended the game on a sour note when Mellon was sent off for aiming a kick at Hughes in the dying minutes.

However, the tangerine dream is still alive. "We are very, very close to being what I want us to be now," Sam Allardyce, who became manager in July, said. "We have got to be positive. We did not come here for a draw. We have got to go for it. We have got to take the chance of promotion while it is here."

SHREWSBURY TOWN (3-5-2): T. Clarke; M. Williams, T. Lynch, M. Hughes; S. Babb, C. Webb, M. Taylor, R. Egan; K. Summerfield; W. Clarke (sub: M. Smith, 70min), D. Gask. BLACKPOOL (4-4-2): L. Martin; G. Rowett, S. Dalton, J. Lyddell, D. Bradshaw; A. Morrison, M. Mellon, R. Mitchell, A. Gough; J. Quinn (sub: C. Beach, 80), A. Ellis. Referee: S. Matheson.

Goal feast fit for a King

Mansfield Town 6
Lincoln City 2

By KEITH PIKE

FIRE drills can be irritating, but as police and stewards tried to evacuate the North Stand at Field Mill, they were met with more reluctance on the terraces than expected. "I think they're afraid of missing something," a bobble-hatted boy sitting next to his mother said as they looked on. "But it's half-time," she replied, in obvious confusion.

Mansfield supporters dare not turn their backs for a second on a team for whom the goals are flowing in such volume that the club might have to consider replacing its statistician with a returning officer. After a second recount on Saturday, Mansfield had registered another half-dozen and were duly declared England's top league goalscorers.

It is football with a smile, and Andy King's grin was so broad that the Mansfield manager had trouble fitting back into his office afterwards. He pulled an apprentice to one

side. "Nip upstairs and knock on the boardroom," were the instructions. "Ask the chairman, very politely, for a cigar for me. Tell him I'll swap it for my win bonus." Such is the reality of economic life down in the third division of the Endleigh Insurance League that King would not be too much out of pocket.

At the start of play, Blackburn Rovers led the league scoring charts with 67 Premiership goals. Mansfield had managed 65 and were enjoying a remarkably prolific spell. With 75 minutes gone, Blackburn were losing 1-0 to Coventry City, yet still led the way. Mansfield, despite the boost of a seventh-minute goal by Noteman, were being held by a resolute Lincoln team, who had drawn level through Daws. It was hard to see what all the fuss was about.

Fourteen minutes and five goals later, the doubters had their answer and Blackburn had their record usurped. Mansfield's brief but glorious burst had included a seventh-minute hat-trick by Onuora to mark his first full appearance of an injury-ravaged season, a

goal by the substitute, Hadley, within minutes of coming on, and a penalty by Noteman. Lincoln's second, from Brown, came in stoppage time.

Mansfield have now scored 66 goals in 25 matches since the end of October: 49 in 16 since December 18. There is pace throughout the side, plus controlled aggression, but what sets Mansfield apart is their rapport with the ball, which is welcomed as a friend, not a live grenade.

None of which will count for much if Mansfield fail to go up. "I could not be happier, but I don't want this to be a 'nearly was' season," King said. "We nearly beat Wolves in the third round of the FA Cup, we might have beaten Millwall in the Coca-Cola Cup after knocking out Leeds, but I want something positive at the end of the season, and that is promotion."

MANCHESTER TOWN (4-4-2): D. Ward; A. Rodon, M. Peters, L. Howarth, I. Beardsley; S. Ireland (sub: S. Haden, 80min), S. Patten (sub: J. Doolan, 84), L. Lynam, K. Noteman; S. Walsworth. LINCOLN CITY (4-5-1): A. Lanning; P. Smith, G. Brown, C. Greenall, B. Dixon; D. Johnson, G. Sainsbury, D. West (sub: N. Matthews, 22), D. Hill, M. Carson; A. Dowe. Referee: T. Holborn.

Edinburgh clubs kept apart in Scottish Cup semi-finals

HEART of Midlothian, while defeating the Terminus Scottish Cup-holders, Dundee United, 2-1 at Tynecastle yesterday, demonstrated that they have recovered the aptitude for combat which made them so formidable in the 1980s. Tommy McLean's team fell a goal behind after four minutes, and were occasionally outplayed, but still had the ringcraft to roll with the punches.

By knocking out United, Hearts secured a semi-final meeting with Airdrieonians, who defeated the Edinburgh side when they met at that stage of the competition in 1992. In the other match, Celtic are to meet Hibernian. The possibility remains of the two principal Edinburgh clubs meeting in the Scottish Cup Final for the first since 1896.

That match was played in the capital, at Logie Green, and Hearts won 3-1. Modern

resources, though, are of more relevance than Victorian precedent. The key goals yesterday were both scored by John Millar, a player given a free-transfer by Blackburn Rovers in 1991 when he was presumably judged to be lacking the necessary lustre once Ewood Park had acquired the sheen of Jack Walker's money.

After his contribution against Dundee United, however, a little glamour will always be attached to his name at Tynecastle. Even so, United trooped away in the knowledge that they had conspired in their achievements. Gauche defending at set-pieces played its part in each goal. Ivan Golac's team is accomplished but sedate, and the lack of a fierce focus has left it too close to the premier division relegation struggle.

Golac's contract expires in the summer and there is nobody who believes it will be

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

renewed. If this match has sealed his fate, though, he has, in part, been a victim of his team's negligence. The manager later identified Hananah as the man who had failed in his marking duties when Hearts equalised from a free kick after 20 minutes. Frail swept the ball to the back post and, with defenders clustering around the strapping McPherson, Millar was left to head back across goal into the corner of the net.

The visitors were only marginally more vigorous when conceding the decisive goal two minutes from the interval. The markers at least had a closer view of Millar this time, even if they did not prevent him from planting another firm header past O'Hanlon after Jamieson had glanced on Mackay's corner.

Such developments could not have been anticipated when United began the match flamboyantly and Sergio ran past Millar and McPherson for a dashing goal after four minutes.

The tale of cup-ties is supposed to be filled with subplots and irony, but two of the other three quarter-finals might have been scripted by the authors of Ladybird books. The fat cat sat on the gnat.

Prosperous clubs squashed upstarts who proved merely to be minor irritants. Kilmarnock may have lost by just a

SEMI-FINALS
Airdrieonians v Heart of Midlothian
Hibernian v Celtic
This to be played on April 7, 8 or 9 at neutral venues

single goal to Celtic on Friday, but their contribution to the match was marginal.

The following day, Hibernian ran in four second-half goals without reply at Ochilview to overwhelm Stenhousemuir, and make Aberdeen's defeat by the second-division side appear even more ignominious.

Only at Stark's park was there a contest to spark debate. Airdrie's victory there over Raith Rovers was a little unexpected, but Alex MacDonald's team are always rumbustious and skilful enough to relish such occasions. A 4-1 margin, however, was crushing. Raith leaked

goals or players all afternoon. In the second half, Shaun Dennis and Stephen McAniste were sent off as the Coca-Cola Cup-winners, who had already mislaid their normal form, also lost their self-control. Jimmy Nicholl, the Kirkcaldy club's manager, commented on the indiscipline with candid dignity.

Mere defeat left him untruffed, but the boorishness with which it was met was unacceptable. "There is," as Nicholl put it, "a way to lose."

Regard for an honest manager has surely grown. The Scottish Cup lost one of the key figures in its history yesterday when Jack Mowat, who had refereed seven finals, died in hospital. He had also been in charge of the glorious European Cup final of 1960 when Real Madrid trounced Eintracht Frankfurt 7-3 at Hampden Park. Latterly, Mowat served on SFA and Fifa committees.

Pugh: delighted

The disappointment from supporters of the combined Australia-New Zealand-Japan bid was

Yet the Welsh bid, presented by Gerald Davies and Glanmore Griffiths, received the necessary majority and means, in essence, a repetition of the 1991 tournament, with the principal difference that 20 countries will be involved. The four home unions will each host a pool while France will stage its own group matches, the others from that pool being played in England.

A play-off will be required to

now the tournament is awarded, he added, which will be part of the IRFB's brief in years to come. The southern hemisphere nations will certainly concur, since they saw at first hand how the five nations can corner half the available votes.

At least Rugby World Cup Ltd

Meanwhile, the finale of the five nations' championship approaches, when England meet Scotland at Twickenham next Saturday. England trained on Saturday under the gaze of the Princess of Wales and the Princes William and Harry, who paid a surprise visit to Twickenham, but were without Jeremy Guscott.

ENGLAND SEVENS SQUAD: A Adebayo (Bath), S Hackney (Leicester), A Healey (Orrell), C Yates (Sale), N Greenstock (Wasps), D Scully (Wakefield), A Diprose (Saracens), D Eves (Bristol), captain, R Hill (Gloucester), R. Jones (Bath).

BY BRYAN STILES

Referee: D Chapman (Yorkshire).

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHICH MAY HAVE ACCOUNTED FOR

FIGURE 1 ■ **THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD**

Palmer, the Warwickshire centre, is tackled by Collins in the county championship semi-final at Rugby

BY BARRY TROWBRIDGE

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BY HENRI BRU

The European winter ends with the team unsettled (there were six changes before the game at Lansdowne Road) and the ranking for the World Cup in South Africa that of outsiders rather than the favouritism which achievements on tour in New Zealand

* There were 100 many mis-

Yet the capacity to score brilliant tries remains: by Sebastien Vians against England; by Philippe Saint-Andre against Scotland; by Yann

than solving problems. The win over Ireland added to them. We must thus hope that France are different from any

□ *Henri Bru is a rugby correspondent for L'Équipe*

By PETER BULLS

உயிர்தாது உயர் பரிசுரத்திலே

Often, it was perilous under such close marking, but when

H Jones, J Reynolds, M McCarthy, D Llewellyn, Brian Williams, Barrie Williams, M Morgan, I Boobyer, Glyn Llewellyn, Gareth Llewellyn, C Scott, C Wyatt.
Referee: G Simmonds (Cardiff).

Maguire may miss Festival after mother's death

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

ADRIAN MAGUIRE will decide this morning whether to ride at the Cheltenham Festival this week after the sudden death of his mother early yesterday.

Phyllis Maguire, 56, died in her sleep after suffering a heart attack at her home in Kilmessan, County Meath, and Adrian flew from Heathrow yesterday afternoon to be with his family.

The top jockey has an outstanding book of rides at the three-day Festival starting tomorrow, including Reel in the Smurfit Champion Hurdle, Viking Flagship, last year's winner of the Queen Mother Champion Chase, and Barton Bank in the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup.

David Nicholson, the champion trainer who retains Maguire as his stable jockey, said yesterday: "Adrian and his mother were very close. Whatever he decides I will go along with."

Mrs Maguire was renowned as a pillar of strength in her close-knit family, especially to Adrian during his meteoric rise to the top of his profession. However, she was deeply affected by the death of her son Vincent, one of ten children, who was killed in a hit-and-run accident, aged 17.

Two years younger than Adrian, "Vinny" was also an exceptionally promising young rider and she recalled recently how the pair of boys were mad on racing from the day they could walk.

The youngsters had a favourite pony called Charlie. "Adrian would bring the pony right into the house and jump down the step in the kitchen right before my eyes," Mrs

Maguire related. "I was supposed to get cross at that but I couldn't. Vinny and himself were having such fun doing it in turns. I just turned a blind eye to it all."

After the death of Vincent, Mrs Maguire never watched live televised races in which Adrian was riding. Instead, she would video the races,

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: GLADYS EMMANUEL
(4.30 Taunton)
Next best: First Century
(2.00 Taunton)

telephone Adrian early in the evening to check he was safe and well, and then sit down to watch the recordings.

A keen racing supporter, she never bet but was fond of relating how on her first visit to Huntingdon she picked out six winners on the card. She was staunch in her defence of Adrian when he came under attack from sections of the

media for his riding style and use of the whip and was not averse to ringing up newspapers to express her views.

With sunshine and a drying breeze offering the prospect of reasonable ground at Cheltenham by tomorrow, trainers were yesterday making last-minute plans for their best horses.

Lambourn-based Oliver Sherwood, who has a particularly strong hand to play this week, has decided that Auburn Castle, winner of the Michael Seely Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase, will bypass the Arkle Chase in favour of the Grand Annual Chase where he looks to be particularly favourably handicapped.

Meanwhile, Coulton will miss the Queen Mother Champion Chase in favour of the Cathcart Chase. All The Aces, trained in Ireland by Arthur Moore, may also be switched from the Midway of Fletch to the Cathcart.

Howard Johnson will make a decision about the participation of Morrell in the Arkle Chase after the result of blood tests on his top novice. "If they are all he will probably run but I am not building my hopes up. I am under no pressure to run him and the way my horses have been going he should be a 10-1 shot."

On the betting front, William Hill will line up with other major bookmakers by promoting Danoli to clear 7-2 favourite for the Champion Hurdle, and eased Large Action, Alderbrook and Fortune And Fame.

Baerlein obituary, page 21

Maguire: decision today

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Planning to claim a slice of the action



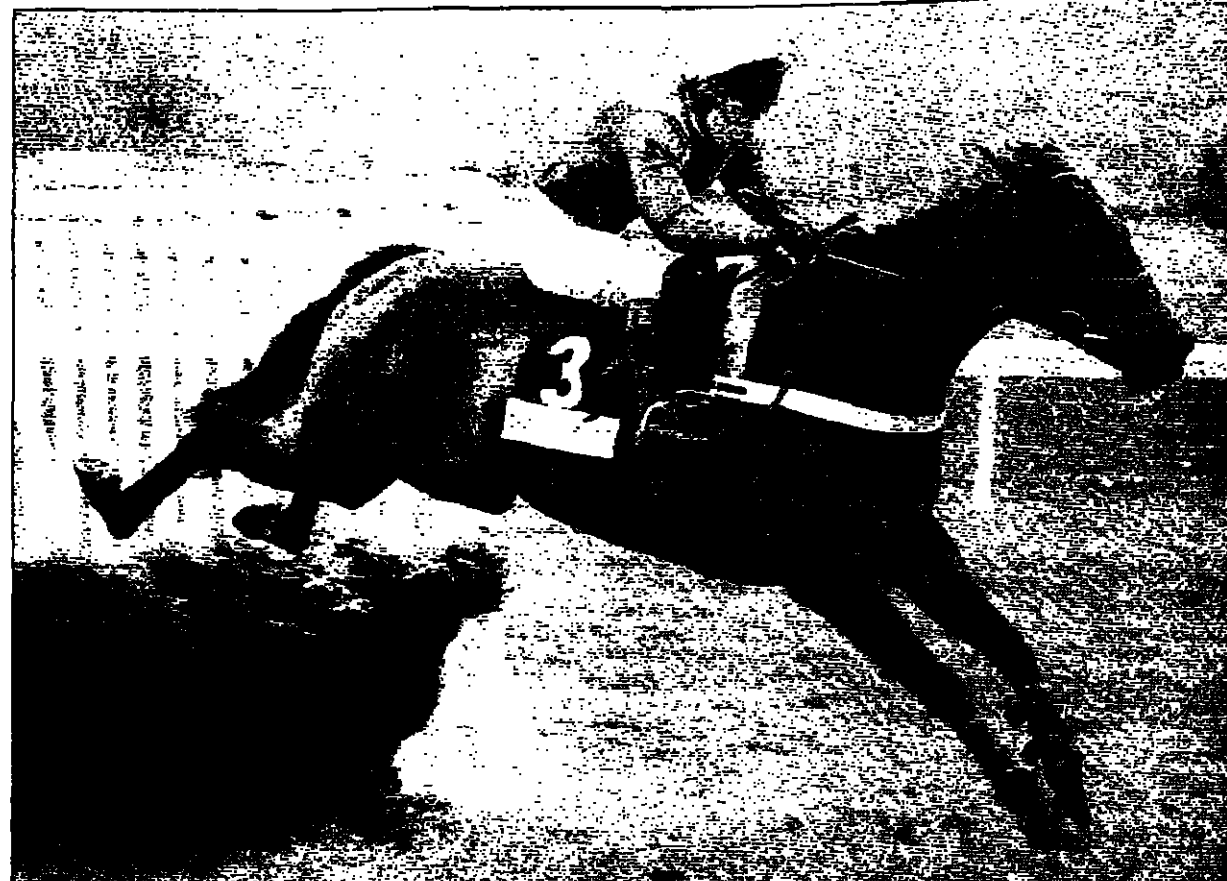
Jamie Osborne sees careful preparation nearing fruition on the eve of Cheltenham

I have spent the past few months trying to find rides that will compete with a serious chance of winning this week at Cheltenham. Now that they are finalised I have a particularly strong hand and the bookmakers appear to agree - I have been installed as favourite to be the leading jockey at the Festival.

Trainers will have brought their horses to a peak of fitness for this, the most eagerly awaited week of the year. For the jockeys, competing level tends to remain at a level we can sustain. But we must be mentally prepared for what is a demanding three days. I spend time visualising each race, weighing up my horse's ability, the likely tactics of the chief opposition and deciding my ideal approach.

While few races work out exactly as planned I do find this thought process helps me to approach each race with confidence which in turn relieves pressure. Unlike some sportsmen recently I have yet to feel the need to employ the hypnotic services of Paul McKenna!

Tomorrow I will be concentrating on attempting to go



Osborne and Large Action will be looking to improve on last year's third in the Champion Hurdle

two steps further than last year's third place in the Champion Hurdle on Large Action. Large Action has improved since last year's race his preparation for a race has gone without a hiccup and he has never been in a better physical or mental state.

Unlike previous years there are few solid form lines to link the major contenders. The Irish have strong claims in Danoli, Fortune And Fame and Monteludo, but it is difficult to equate them to the best of the English. Relkeel, Alderbrook and Large Action are all fancied to keep the crown on this side of the Irish sea. There is also last year's Triumph Hurdle

winner, Mysliv. I had the option to ride her in the race and my decision was not as straightforward as one might imagine. She has come to hand at the right time, her defeat of Trying Again in the Tote Gold Trophy showed she had the class for a race of this calibre and she will not go down without a fight.

It is always difficult when two regular riders clash but at Cheltenham, where the stakes are so high, it makes my decision even more crucial. If Mysliv were to win the Champion Hurdle I would be disappointed initially. But one must be philosophical as this sport is full of swings and roundabouts. In 1992 I benefited when Richard Dun-

woody had both Waterloo Boy and Remittance Man in the Queen Mother Champion Chase.

In that race on Wednesday Dunwoody has a chance to level the score. Travado and Nakir are leading fancies and both are my regular rides. I will be riding Nakir, last year's Arkle winner, while Dunwoody will take over on Travado, the Arkle winner in 1993.

Trying to evaluate which horse will hold the better chance on the day is not easy. Obviously I am hoping it will be Nakir. Most of the other races have provided less of a dilemma. Callise Bay, Berude Not

To and Stompin all hold outstanding chances in their respective novice hurdles, as does Coulton in the Cathcart Chase on Thursday. The talented Red Blazer runs in Wednesday's bumper and a return to form for Halkopops in the Stayers' Hurdle would see him as a live challenger.

Every jockey riding at Cheltenham will be dreaming of a winner but with just 20 races to contest the majority will be disappointed. Admittedly, it gives us a chance to add a nought to our monthly pay cheque, but the Festival is more than that. To win the Ritz Cup Trophy for leading jockey for the second time this week would be something to treasure.

TAUNTON

2.00 Lucky Blue
2.30 What A Hand
3.00 Act The Wag

Brian Beel: 2.30 What A Hand.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 SPRING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,054; 2m 311yds) (14 runners)

101 11F-58F PAMPILLO 11 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 7-11-10... R. Arnold (7) 82
102 1-35-133 PHARMAS PRINCE 54 (5.5) (J. Kelly) M. H. H. 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
103 35-50-11 THE MOWER 12 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
104 16-14-16 LUCKY BLUE 28 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
105 33-12-13 FIRST CENTURY 22 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
106 2-05-10 WORLD EXPRESS 12 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
107 35-50-13 J BRAND 4 (5.5) (J. Kelly) M. H. H. 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
108 0-11-14 VIOLET'S BOY 28 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
109 2-05-10 TOUR LEADER 77 (5.5) (J. Kelly) M. H. H. 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
110 2-05-10 TOUR LEADER 77 (5.5) (J. Kelly) M. H. H. 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82

Long handicap. Tour Leader 7-13.

BETTING: 7-2 The Mower, 4-1 Pampillo, 5-2 Phymas Prince, 5-1 First Century, 8-1 Lucky Blue, World Express, 11-10 others.

1994: 10-14-14 PAMPILLO 11-12 M. P. Jones (20-1) R. Arnold 14-10

FORM FOCUS

PAMPILLO beat Captain Tandy 12 in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March.

2.30 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE
(Qualifier: amateurs; £2,000; 3m) (8 runners)

101 0-2-1-1-1 BOOTSCHAPER 21P (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
102 0-2-1-1-1 BOOTSCHAPER 21P (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
103 0-2-1-1-1 BOOTSCHAPER 21P (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
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110 0-2-1-1-1 BOOTSCHAPER 21P (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82

BETTING: 11-4 What A Hand, 5-2 M. J. P. Jones, 5-1 Royal Wag, 12-1 Beel, 20-1 others.

1994: 5-2 M. J. P. Jones, 5-1 Royal Wag, 12-1 Beel, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

BOOTSCHAPER completed double beat at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March.

3.00 BATHPOOL MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,334; 2m 311yds) (14 runners)

101 0-1-1-1-1 ACT THE WAG 103 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
102 0-1-1-1-1 ACT THE WAG 103 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
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109 0-1-1-1-1 ACT THE WAG 103 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
110 0-1-1-1-1 ACT THE WAG 103 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82

BETTING: 9-4 Upham Surprise, 7-2 Act The Wag, 4-1 Royal Wag, 7-1 Valley's Choice, 16-1 Glessu, 20-1 others.

1994: 10-14-14 PAMPILLO 11-12 M. P. Jones (20-1) R. Arnold 14-10

FORM FOCUS

ACT THE WAG 103 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
Upham Surprise beat 1st in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March.

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GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 11-14-13 5000 TIMES 13 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
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101 11-14-13 5000 TIMES 13 (5.5) (G. Bailey) G. Bailey 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82

3.30 LANDLORDS NOVICES CHASE
(£3,339; 2m 30) (4 runners)

101 0-1-1-1-1 SHIMBA HILLS 12 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
102 0-1-1-1-1 SHIMBA HILLS 12 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
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SHIMBA HILLS beat Duxbury Beacon 10 in 10-runner novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March.

BETTING: 5-2 Shamba Hills, 4-1 Shamba Hills, 12-1 Shamba Hills, 20-1 others.

1994: 5-2 Shamba Hills, 4-1 Shamba Hills, 12-1 Shamba Hills, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

SHIMBA HILLS beat Duxbury Beacon 10 in 10-runner novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March. He was also 2nd in 20-runner conditional juvenile hurdle at Ludlow (2m 311yds) on 11th March.

4.00 MARCH SELLING HURDLE
(£1,802; 2m 10) (4 runners)

101 0-1-1-1-1 CHALLENGER ROW 24 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
102 0-1-1-1-1 CHALLENGER ROW 24 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
103 0-1-1-1-1 CHALLENGER ROW 24 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
104 0-1-1-1-1 CHALLENGER ROW 24 (5.5) (M. J. P. Jones) M. J. P. Jones 5-11-7... M. A. Fitzgerald (7) 82
105 0-1-1-1-1 CH

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

USBOA International half-marathon: Men: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

ROMA International marathon: Men: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 2:10:23.2, J. Dube (Eth) 2:11:05. Women: 1, E. Spillars (Rus) 2:37:48.2, S. Salazar (Mex) 2:39:39.3, R. Erickson (US) 2:39:51.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 104 Miami 96, Washington 100 New York 102, Chicago 106 LA Lakers 109 Houston 105 Dallas 102, New York 84 Seattle 96.

BLENDERS LEAGUE: Birmingham 77 Thames Valley 70, Leicester 83 Liverpool 86, London 101 Chester 78 Manchester 98, Somerset 82, Gloucestershire 81, Kent 80, Hampshire 100, Wrexham 79 Derby 86.

ENGLISH ASSOCIATION (EBA): Men: First division: Coventry 72, Plymouth 68, Second division: Liverpool 72, Wrexham 68, Third division: Wrexham 68, Second division: Wrexham 68, Third division: Wrexham 68.

BIATHLON

LAHTI, World Cup, Men: 10km: 1, O. Bjorkstrand (Swe) 26:15.2, 2, S. Kuitonen (Fin) 26:15.2, 3, P. Pulkkinen (Fin) 26:15.2, 4, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 5, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 6, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 7, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 8, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 9, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2, 10, J. Kallio (Fin) 26:15.2.

BOXING

LAS VEGAS: World Boxing Organization heavyweight championship: Rocky Davis (US) vs. Hector Hernandez (Mex), both 10-0.

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: Yelton Trophy: Semi-final: Boston 87, Bedford 89, Egham 87, Adur 71, First: Egham 86, Boston 82.

CRICKET

First test match: Sri Lanka vs New Zealand, Sri Lanka have a second-innings lead of 166 runs over New Zealand.

Second test match: Sri Lanka vs New Zealand, Sri Lanka have a second-innings lead of 166 runs over New Zealand.

RACING

Sandown Park: Going: good to soft, soft in places (chase course), soft, heavy in places (flat).
1.45: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings

BA Young vs **Dunelm**: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

GOLF

AGADIR: Moroccan open: Final scores: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

SHOOTING

INTER-UNIVERSITY: Inter-universities indoor championship (Teams of 9): 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

GYMNASTICS

MELB: Women's international: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 0 Florida 2, Quebec 2 NY Islanders 1, Pittsburgh 5 Buffalo 2, Montreal 3 NY Rangers 1, Toronto 2 Chicago 2 (OT), Winnipeg 2 Los Angeles 4, Vancouver 5 Anaheim 3.

LACROSSE

MEN: Shepherd's Friendly Society: First division: North Chesham 0, Watlington 1, 2nd division: North Chesham 0, Watlington 1, 3rd division: North Chesham 0, Watlington 1.

ROWING

MORTLAKE: PUTNEY: Women's Eight: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

SHINTY

GLENNORHANGIE CAMANACHD CUP: Fourth round: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup: Quarter-finals: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

CIS county championship: Semi-finals: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

CIS Under-21 county championship: Semi-finals: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Courage Clubs: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Stones Bitter: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken League: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Insurance Corporation League: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Super 10 tournament: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS SPORT: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Rugby Union: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Football: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

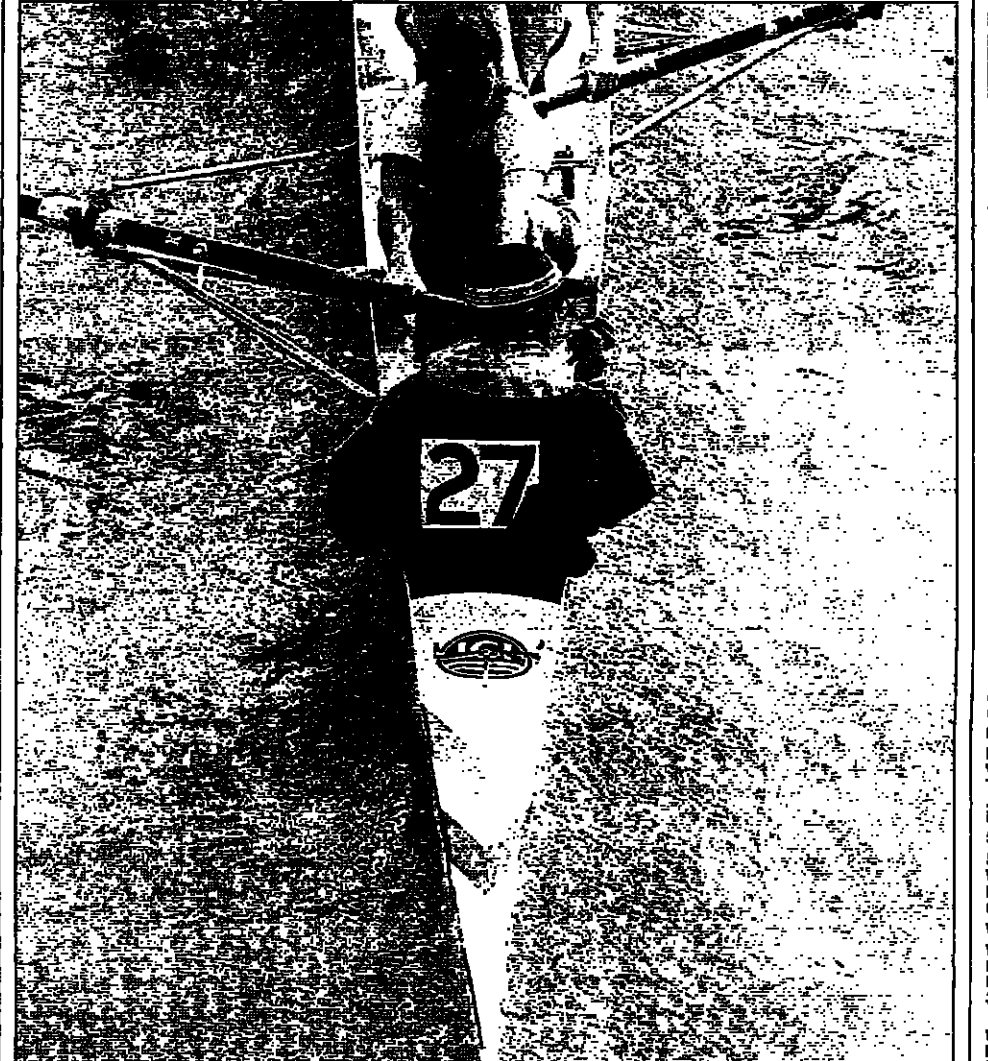
Football: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Football: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

RUGBY UNION

Football: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.



Northwich Rowing Club's crew strive to better their placing in the 55th women's eights Head of the River race from Mordake to Putney on Saturday. The event was won by the Kingston, Thames and Tideway crew. Photo: James Morgan

HOCKEY

HA CUP: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

HOCKEY

WOMEN: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

HOCKEY

SENIOR CLUBS: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

HOCKEY

LEAGUE: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

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POINT-TO-POINT

BRECON (Llanfrynach): Hunt: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

POINT-TO-POINT

Real Class: 1, S. Lopez (Ken) 1:02:26.2, A. Piro (Eth) 1:01:07.3, D. Castro (Per) 1:01:22.2, W. Wessels (Ned) 1:01:26.1, T. Lemaire (Bel) 1:02:21.2, A. Caputo (Ned) 1:02:12.3, C. McGowan (GB) 1:03:49.

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Owen appears schooled for success after distinguished display against Brazil

England secure reward for good homework

The richness of English schoolboy talent can be such an illusion, gold-dust passing through the fingers like sand. At Wembley on Saturday, joining a crowd of 32,514 dominated by children mainly younger than the 15-year-olds on national duty was to share another day of English promise.

It was like, in fact, 1968, the only other time the Brazil schoolboys had come to England. Then they were beaten 2-0; this time it was 1-0. Then, as now, there was such excitement, such belief that England is on a par with the most abundant footballing nation on earth. Yet last year Brazil regained the World Cup in a tournament for which England did not even qualify.

Nevertheless, here again was unmistakable evidence that, in technique, fitness and readiness to play for one's country, there is no great distance between England and Brazil. Moreover, at schoolboy level, England seem to unlearn, year by year, young, often small, reliable goalscorers that are the envy of the world. Liverpool are prominent in this and Michael Owen, the match-winner on Saturday, is already on the club's books.

He is no sudden shooting star. His father, Terry, played on the wing for Chester City, and Michael, in his primary schooldays on Deside, broke even the hallowed records of Ian Rush. Henrique, a composed defender who had to contend with Owen, was considerably helped by England isolating their most promising player. Six goals Owen has scored in three schoolboy internationals, yet even at this level everyone sets out to prove how cleverly they can mimic modern tactics. Thus, Owen was left to scamper all alone



Rob Hughes watches a striking performance at under-15 level that augurs well for the future

up front, the huge Wembley field and the pressing game of the Brazilians proving too much for the hounded England midfield players, who did not support him.

He had the perseverance and the patience to wait 70 minutes for a chance. It came when Brazil tired on the left. Jorginho sold himself badly in the tackle. Jamie Burt, the substitute with fresh legs, burst past him, past Rafael, the sweeper, too, and crossed

described as the "box formation". Deploying both full backs virtually as wing backs, they defended with Henrique and Rafael; two midfield players, Fabiano and Abel, squared the box around Owen.

Like the Brazilians, the English were boys carrying out men's orders, pursuing tactics at the expense of free expression. As a result, there was more to please the eye of watching coaches than to light the fire in any impressionable schoolboy in the audience.

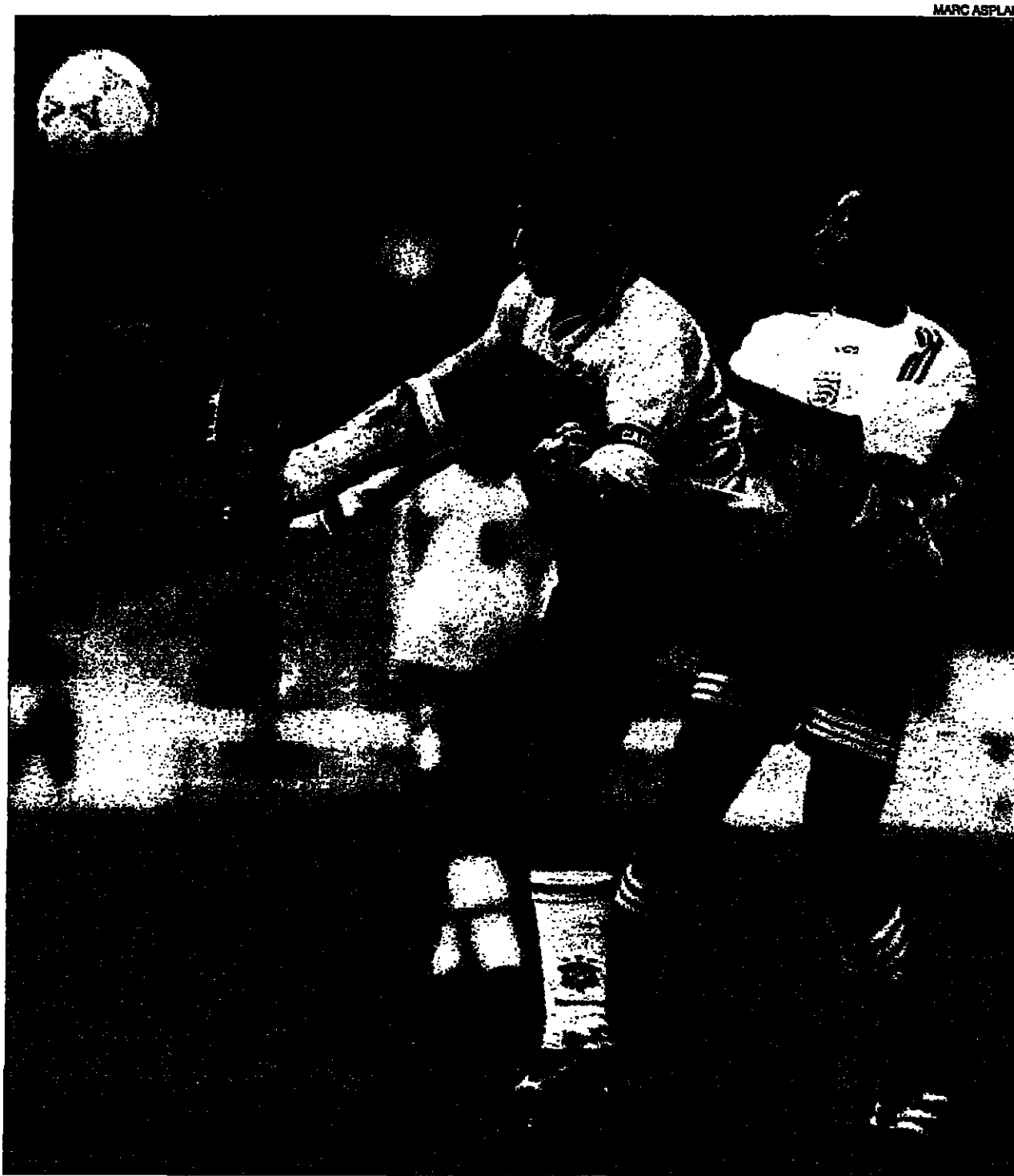
Venables, recalling his own under-15 debut at Wembley against a lad called Billy Bremner, was there not only to present the prizes but also to acknowledge that part of his remit is to help devise a strategy that prevents the squandering of youthful promise in the professional game.

In fact, Howe is the man most concerned with this. He enthused on Saturday about the technical parity of the teams. Two weeks ago, he returned from Greece, where the England under-16 team scored two handsome victories, including one over Romania who, at senior level, appear so much more technically accomplished.

Howe is making keeping schoolboy teams together a priority. "I am going to ask the clubs to let us bring the under-16s, all of them apprentices, together at least four times a season," he said. "They already have a friendship, an appreciation of blend and ability, that we must foster and keep going."

As he spoke, the teams filed into the Wembley banquet hall for their post-match meal. The Brazilians, even though their coaching staff said that results at this level mean nothing, looked devastated. They had also lost 1-0 to Scotland, another result unpalatable to players from a

country where the need for footballing success is so intensely felt. For the Brazilians, though, part of this trip was about protocol and behaviour, and there was no better example for them than their coach, Toninho Barroso. He applauded as each English schoolboy was handed his cap and then offered his hand and a warm embrace. He knows, and they may not, that Pelé, the greatest of them all, never set foot on the Wembley turf in a competitive match... and to this day regrets it.



Henrique, the Brazil captain, gets ahead of Aaron Brown in the schoolboy international at Wembley

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Cities give boost to basketball hopefuls

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THE biggest handicap of British basketball is the lack of decent competition for school-leavers who do not win scholarships to American universities. There is no problem in the schools, certainly not in the inner cities.

London supplied eight of the boys who helped England win the four-nations tournament for cadets under 16 at Lee Valley at the weekend. Testimony to the painstaking work of the grand old man of British basketball, Humphrey Long, was the fact that three of them belonged to his club, East London Royals. London Towers provided two, one of whom, Jonathan Lavinier, collected the award for most valuable player.

With the help of two players from Crystal Palace, one from Brixton, three from Bury and one from Birmingham, the England team, coached by Rick Woodbridge, defeated Ireland 94-61 to regain the trophy from their opponents.

"There are a load of talented kids and we are managing to identify the best of them to play for England," Brani Bazany, the English Basketball Association's (EBBA) regional development officer for London and the South East, said.

The plan is for England to go on and give a good account at the European championships for cadets in Portugal in July. But after that, who knows? The long-term objective, Mission 2000, is the brainchild of the EBBA's chief executive, Dave Ransom, who wants to see basketball recognised as the leading indoor sport in the United Kingdom by the millennium.

Two million children each year are being introduced to the sport in secondary schools, and Sainsbury's have helped by investing £190,000 over the next two years into a Basketball for All project. "But the key word is access," Ransom said. "We must increase the access to the sport."

Results, page 32

SPORT FOR ALL



Put your heart into a fun bike ride for charity

If you enjoy fresh country air and an exciting challenge, then you will want to join the British Heart Foundation's (BHF) London to Brighton Bike Ride on Sunday, June 18. More than 27,000 people will be pedalling the 58 miles to help the fight against our number one killer - heart disease.

The riders start in an atmosphere of colour, excitement and flashing pedals from Clapham Common, wind out of London and through the picturesque country lanes of Surrey and Sussex, and finish on the Brighton seafront, stopping off, of course, along the way whenever a tea shop takes their fancy.



Jeff Banks invites readers to enter the London to Brighton Bike Ride, which raised more than £1m for the British Heart Foundation last year

The ride is not a race, it is a challenging fun day out. Cycling is an extremely good way to keep fit and also environmentally friendly. The event encourages people to exercise for the sake of their hearts, and at the same time take on a fun challenge.

Anyone aged over 18 and those aged 14 to 17 and accompanied by an adult can enter. Riders have full mechanical and first aid back-up. Heart and circulatory disease kills one person every two minutes in Britain - that is equivalent to a jumbo jet crashing every

day. I find these statistics terrifying. Yet there is hope. Fill in the form below and help the BHF fight this killer disease by being part of the London to Brighton Bike Ride.

Get yourself sponsored: the entry fee goes towards organising costs. All sponsorship money will help research into why many babies are born with abnormal hearts; improve the materials used in heart valves; give advice and support for sufferers from congenital heart disease; and look at new ways of treating heart rhythm disorders.

Without your funds, the British Heart Foundation cannot fight disease. I have

ridden the 58 miles in the London to Brighton twice and can thoroughly recommend it as a fun and healthy day out. So get on your bike, get sponsored, and fill out the registration form on this page.

All the places are usually taken by mid-April - so don't delay!

Jeff Banks is a designer.

Regular reports on preparations for the ride will appear in Sport For All. The Times will be entering its own team and will offer readers the opportunity to sponsor some former heart patients who are taking part.

Fill in this form to join the ride

THE RIDE. You can leave the starting post at Clapham Common Southside between 6am and 10am. Please select a start time on the entry form; places are allocated half-hourly on a first come, first served basis. If your preferred slot is full, we'll give you the nearest available.

All riders must be over 14. Riders aged 14, 15 and 16 must be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult. Children under 14 must not take part as riders and must not be carried, or put in a child seat.

Our 58-mile route will take you through some of the loveliest villages and countryside in England. Once out of London, we make sure most of the roads are closed to other traffic to help give you a trouble-free ride.

YOU AND YOUR HEALTH. Cycling can be strenuous

and you must make sure you are in good health.

We know that heart patients are keen to support the British Heart Foundation's activities, and many are perfectly fit enough to take part in the Bike Ride.

However, if you have any medical condition which could be affected by exercise, particularly a heart condition, or if you are in any doubt about your health, you must get clearance from your doctor before participating.

All riders should be reasonably fit. If you are not a regular cyclist, we recommend you go for a bike ride two or three times a week for several weeks in advance of the Brighton ride, gradually increasing the distance you cycle.

HOW TO ENTER. Places are limited to 27,000 cyclists.

The ride is usually full by the end of April, so to avoid disappointment please send in your entry form as soon as you can.

For more copies of the form, simply photocopy this entry form. Please enclose your cheque or postal order with your entry form and we will send you our official Rider Pack.

DATA PROTECTION ACT. We will add your name to our mailing list so that we can keep you informed about the British Heart Foundation's work. From time to time we may wish this list to be used by or made available to other carefully screened organisations. If you would prefer your name not to be included on these occasions, just let us know.

London to Brighton Bike Ride - Sunday 18th June 1995

ENTRY FORM. You can enter either as an individual or as part of a team. You must fill in and sign your own entry form including your home address, even if you are part of a team or riding a multi-seater bike. Even if you are riding as part of a team, your Rider Pack will be sent to your home address. However, if you are a team leader and want the entire team's packs sent to you, please tick the box. If, as a team leader, you want the entire team's packs sent to an address other than your home address, please send a covering letter. This facility can only be offered to team leaders.

Name _____

Home address _____

Postcode (must be included) _____

Tel: Day _____

Age group 14-15 ☐ 16-21 ☐ 22-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65+ ☐

A special certificate will be given to the top individual fundraiser in each of the above age groups

☐ Tick box if your reason for riding might be of special interest Male ☐ Female ☐

TEAM ENTRY. Team leaders: please send all entry forms in one batch!

Name of team leader _____ Team name _____

Please tick type of team Small company team (2-10 riders) ☐ Family team ☐

Medium company team (11-50 riders) ☐ Club Challenge team (up to 50 riders) ☐

Large company team (51-100 riders) ☐

Special trophies will be given to the top fundraising team in above categories.

Please tick if your company is contributing to or matching your sponsor money ☐

START TIMES. Please tick your first choice. If already full we will give you the nearest available time.

6.00 ☐ 6.30 ☐ 7.00 ☐ 7.30 ☐ 8.00 ☐ 8.30 ☐ 9.00 ☐ 9.30 ☐ 10.00 ☐

20TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS. Official London to Brighton Bike Ride 20th Anniversary T-shirts £7.50 each and sweatshirts £12.50 each. Both available in medium (36in-38in), large (40in-42in) and extra large (44in-46in). Indicate quantity and sizes:

T-shirts M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ Sweatshirts M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐

(These will be sent with your rider pack) (These will be sent separately to arrive by 10 June. Orders must be received by 30 April 1995.)

PAYMENT. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to BHF Bike Ride and send together with your completed entry form to the address shown at the bottom of this form. I enclose:

My entry fee £11.50
T-shirt(s) £
Sweatshirt(s) £
Donation £
Total £

CONDITIONS. Cycling on the highway is a potentially dangerous activity and riders take part at their own risk. It is their responsibility to ensure that they are medically fit to take part in the ride. Riders who have any doubt about their health, or have a medical condition that could be affected by exercise, particularly a heart condition, must obtain their doctor's approval before participating. All riders should observe carefully all the rules in the Highway Code and obey the Bike Events' Golden Rules of the Road (printed in the Rider Pack sent to each registered rider, or send an a.s.c. to the address below for an advance copy), and follow instructions from officials and marshals. The British Heart Foundation, London to Brighton Bike Ride Ltd (the owner of the ride and a subsidiary of the British Heart Foundation) and the organisers of the ride will do all in their power to make the event safe, but cannot be held liable for injury, losses and damage caused or sustained as a result of taking part, nor can they accept liability for any changes to the ride as planned, through circumstances beyond their control.

I have read and agree to the above conditions.

I AM 14 YEARS OLD OR OVER AND PLEDGE TO RAISE £ _____ **FOR THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION, REGISTERED CHARITY NO 225971.**

Signature _____ Date _____

If you are under 18 we need your parent or guardian to sign below to agree to the above conditions on your behalf.

Signature _____ Date _____

If you are under 17, please ask your accompanying adult to complete the following (please use block capitals):

Name _____ Home address _____

Postcode (must be included) _____

Please return this form to: The London to Brighton Bike Ride, PO Box 509, Cheadle, Stoke on Trent ST10 4EZ

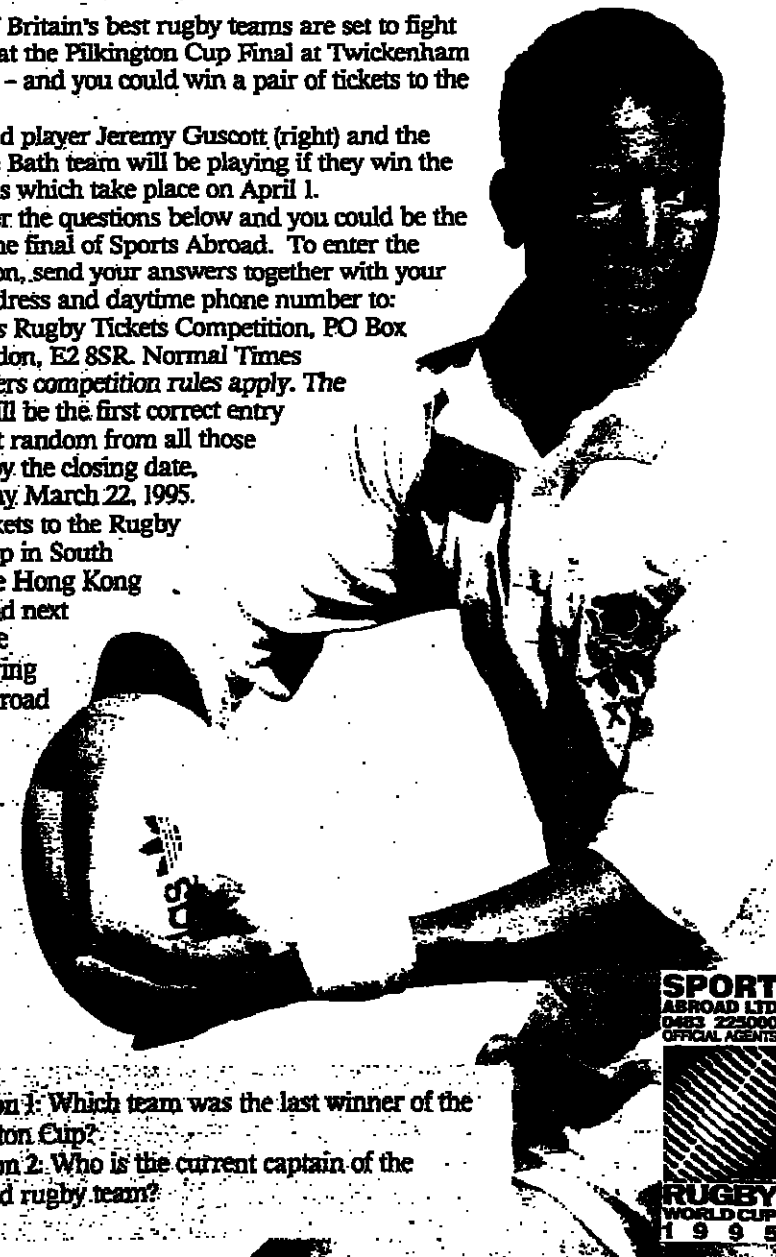
Win two tickets to the Pilkington Cup Final

Two of Britain's best rugby teams are set to fight it out at the Pilkington Cup Final at Twickenham on May 6 - and you could win a pair of tickets to the match.

England player Jeremy Guscott (right) and the rest of the Bath team will be playing if they win the semi-finals which take place on April 1.

Answer the questions below and you could be the guest at the final of Sports Abroad. To enter the competition, send your answers together with your name, address and daytime phone number to: The Times Rugby Tickets Competition, PO Box 6885, London, E2 8SR. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply. The winner will be the first correct entry selected at random from all those received by the closing date, Wednesday March 22, 1995.

For tickets to the Rugby World Cup in South Africa, the Hong Kong Sevens and next year's Five Nations, ring Sports Abroad on 0483-225000.



Question 1: Which team was the last winner of the Pilkington Cup?
Question 2: Who is the current captain of the England rugby team?

SPORT
ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS
OFFICIAL AGENTS
RUGBY
WORLD CUP
1995

Captivated by grace under pressure

HIGH BOLT EDGE

This position is from the game Ekstrom - Bergman, Sweden 1940. White has made promising inroads into the black kingdom, but appears to be temporarily hampered by the pin on his bishop. Does he have to deal with this, or does he have a more forceful continuation?

ly birds in
ght to see
ng image of
hampion

Don't forget your passport

Win a trip to San Francisco and go today

STARTING today and continuing for three weeks, *The Times* in association with Cox & Kings, one of Britain's leading travel firms, will be offering the prize of a holiday each day.

Phone in the answers to our questions before 3pm and you will be contacted the same day if you are a winner. In most cases you will be able to choose whether you and your companion start the holiday later that day.

From Madrid to Machu Picchu in Peru, a huge range of short breaks, tours and adventures worth more than £7,000 is waiting to be won.

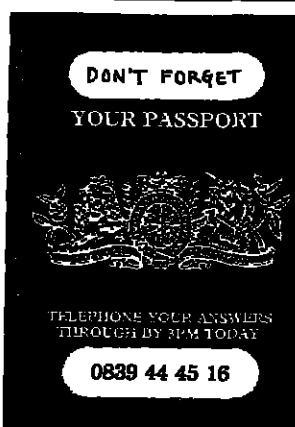
If you cannot leave immediately, it is still worth entering. You will be given the option of taking your holiday at any time during the following two months subject to availability.

Where a prize is a holiday to a distant destination the winner may have to obtain inoculations and arrange visas before travelling.

Today's competition will take the winner to San Francisco for a four-night break courtesy of Cox & Kings.

The steep, narrow streets of the old part of the city are fringed with painted wooden houses and flower gardens. The Bay Area is dotted with pleasure boats and cruise ships and there are stalls and entertainers, pavement cafes and an excellent variety of

THE thrill of heading off for the holiday of a lifetime at a few hours' notice could be yours if you enter our exciting competition



shops and restaurants.

After you have settled in your hotel tomorrow you might explore Chinatown, the largest Chinese community outside Asia — or take a boat trip and tour the grim prison on Alcatraz Island where some of America's most dangerous prisoners were held. You could walk along Lombard Street, claimed to be the crookedest street in the world, or visit the artists' colony at Sausalito.

San Francisco offers a very wide variety of international cuisine, but the local speciality is fresh crabs and prawns served at the seafood houses that line Fisherman's Wharf. They also serve excellent Californian wine — and you might also hire a car and drive out to explore the vineyards of the Napa Valley.

Today's winner and a partner will stay at the five-star deluxe Hotel Westin St Francis on Union Square in the heart of the city. One of San Francisco's finest hotels, this offers supreme comfort in elegant and distinguished surroundings. Guest rooms all have cable television, telephones, in-room refreshment and laundry service.

The hotel's several restaurants include Victors, located 32 stories above the city and

offering both superb views and exquisite cuisine.

The prize includes scheduled flights, four nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast.

HOW TO ENTER

For details and a booking form please call 071-873 5005.

If you are not our lucky winner, Cox & Kings will still be happy to whisk you to San Francisco for as little as £685 a person; single supplements cost from £65.

Prices include scheduled flights, four nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.



San Francisco: you could be exploring the city tomorrow. Inset, the Powell lobby of the Hotel Westin St Francis

Ride to rose-red city of Petra

THE crossroads of the Middle East for more than 10,000 years, Jordan is home to some of the world's most important archaeological sites. Of these, the rose-red city of Petra is the most spectacular.

Next Friday's prize is a four-day journey which begins in the Jordanian capital of Amman. It continues to Petra, which was carved out of pink sandstone by the Nabataean Arabs more than 2,000 years ago.

The mysticism of the city is enhanced by the dramatic landscape which surrounds it and the tour will take our prizewinners through the desert of Wadi Rum to Aqaba, on the shores of the Red Sea. Prices include international scheduled flights with Royal Jordanian, three nights' twinshare accommodation in a three-star hotel, sightseeing and half board. An upgrade to a four-star hotel is available. Prices start at £675 per person (single supplements are from £95) and the trips are on May 10-13, September 13-16, October 11-14 and November 15-18 1995.



Desert transport: a camel is a valuable asset in Jordan

person (single supplements are from £95) and the trips are on May 10-13, September 13-16, October 11-14 and November 15-18 1995.

Europe's unspoilt gem

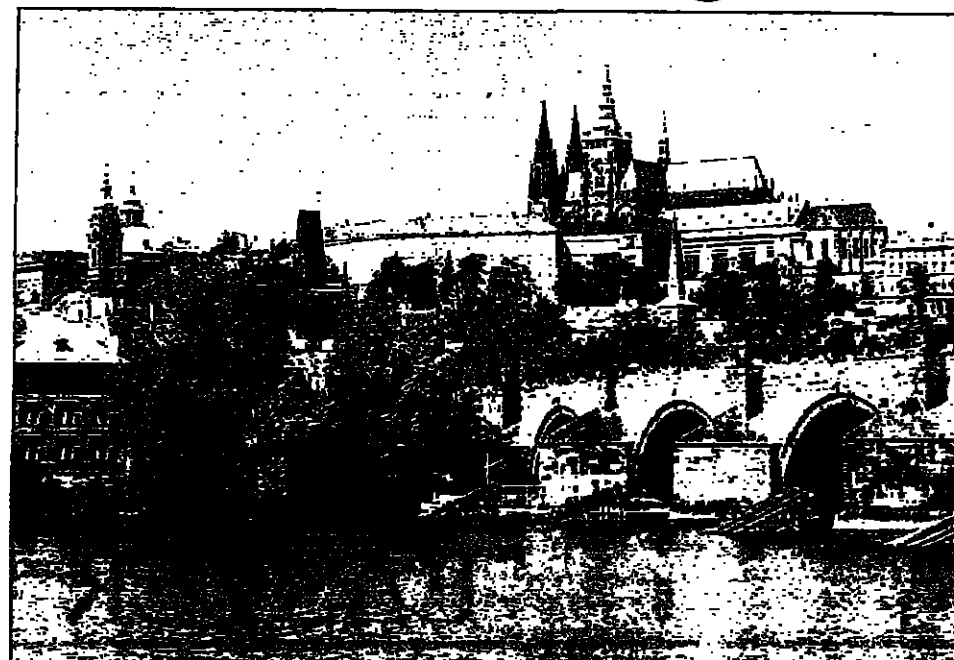
AN ARCHITECTURAL gem set amid Bohemia's rolling country side, Prague is the destination of the short break to be won by our prizewinner on March 22.

Prague escaped heavy air bombardment in the Second World War and its carefully preserved buildings are a splendid harmony of baroque, gothic, renaissance, roman-escue and art nouveau.

For centuries the city has attracted artists, musicians and intellectuals. Mozart loved the city and Dvorak lived and composed there. Visit Hradcany Castle and see the gothic Cathedral of St Vitus, and stroll around the Old Town.

Sweeping through the heart of the city, the Vltava river is crossed by Charles Bridge, the domain of street vendors and buskers. Enjoy Prague's excellent restaurants, its atmospheric taverns and its jazz cafes — or go to a ballet, concert or opera in the elegant State Opera House.

One of a selection of four hotels in Prague offered by Cox & Kings is the recently-



Medieval view: Hradcany Castle is part of Prague's rich architectural heritage

renovated three-star Hotel Julian, small and centrally located near Mala Strana Park. It is in a 100-year-old building with an art nouveau facade.

Rooms are comfortable and have private facilities. Prices include international scheduled flights, two nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.

Prices start at £355 a person and the single supplement is £20.

Luxury in the heart of Paris

WIN THE competition on March 23 and you could set off immediately to see the Champs Elysees, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame cathedral and the Arc de Triomphe. You could also explore the art galleries and museums of Paris and choose whether to dine in historic or in some of the world's finest restaurants.

One of a selection of four hotels in Paris offered by Cox & Kings is the five-star deluxe Hotel Meurice. In the heart of Paris, the Meurice is on the Rue de Rivoli, overlooking the Tuileries gardens.

Prices start at £470 a person, with a £115 single supplement, and include scheduled flights, two nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.

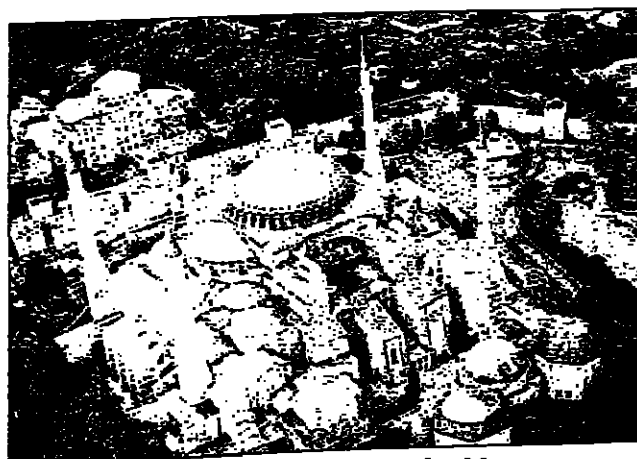
Win a short break to the world's most exciting cities

BRUSSELS is an unusual mixture of the international and the provincial, with cobbled streets and canals next to the modern commercial centre — and you could be exploring it next weekend if you win our competition on Thursday.

The city's Grand Place is one of the most ornate market squares in Europe and is the venue of a daily flower market and a bird market every Sunday morning. Other attractions of the Belgian capital

decorated and each has telephone, cable television and a small library. The atmosphere is elegant and welcoming.

Prices start at £220 per person, with single supplements of £45, and include scheduled flights, two nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.



Istanbul landmark: the Ayasofya Museum

include the Sablon Square Sunday antiques market, the Palais de Justice and the Manneken Pis, the statue of the little boy which dates from 1619 and has become a symbol of the city.

Walk along almost any street and you will be surprised how different each house is from its neighbour. Explore gothic churches, graceful avenues and shops selling lace and handmade Belgian chocolates.

You could sample some of the wide variety of local beers, in many of them very strong, in the city's taverns and enjoy the substantial Belgian meals served in its restaurants. One of three hotels offered by Cox & Kings in Brussels is the deluxe Hotel Montigny on the Avenue de Tervuren. The rooms are exquisitely

and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions available on request.

ISTANBUL spans the continents of Europe and Asia. Its labyrinth of streets is fringed with vast bazaars and street markets; elegant domes and minarets line the horizon and magnificent palaces, mosques, parks and gardens decorate the old city.

Win *The Times* competition on March 28 and you could be visiting the Blue Mosque and the Mosque of Suleiman the Magnificent the next day. You could also explore the Topkapi Palace and the world's largest covered oriental market, the Grand Bazaar.

Alternatively, you might decide to just stroll along the bustling waterfront, take a short cruise on the Bosphorus

or sample traditional Turkish music and cuisine.

One of a selection of three hotels offered by Cox & Kings in Istanbul is the first-class Hotel Pera Palas. Built in 1892 for passengers arriving on the Orient Express, it has consistently entertained royalty, statesmen and artists from all over the world. It still maintains much of its traditional Eastern decor with elegant antique furniture and fittings. Rooms are decorated in traditional style and there is 24-hour room service, a minibar, a radio and, in some rooms, television.

Prices start at £360 per person, with a £30 single supplement, and include scheduled flights, two nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.

SEVILLE is the beautiful and romantic capital of Andalusia and for many people this city embodies the very best of all things Spanish: fiestas, flamenco, oranges and opera.

The city was the home of Carmen, Don Juan and Figaro — and you could be exploring it on Wednesday if you win our competition tomorrow.

Pavement cafes line the streets, and you could walk through the Maria Luisa Park or take a carriage ride through the narrow winding streets past squares, whitewashed houses, courtyards and balconies hung with flower pots full of flowers.

One of a selection of three hotels in Seville offered by Cox & Kings is the four-star Hotel Porta Coeli. This white stucco hotel is less than a mile from the city centre and has a tranquil atmosphere. Each room has air conditioning, a minibar, a bath and television.

There is a heated indoor swimming pool.

Prices are from £285 per person with a £30 single supplement and include scheduled flights, two nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.

BOSTON, with its hilly, crooked cobbled streets, a grassy common and streets of Victorian townhouses, is historically important because of its role in the American struggle for independence.

Enter the competition on Friday and you could walk the Freedom Trail at the weekend, visit Harvard, America's oldest university, take a harbour cruise and see the Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum.

One of three hotels offered by Cox & Kings in Boston is the five-star deluxe Westin



Uncommon market flowers on sale in Brussels

Hotel in Copley Square in the fashionable Back Bay area of the city.

The Westin overlooks Trinity Church and is a few minutes' walk from the Freedom Trail. Its facilities include an indoor swimming pool, a

sauna, a health club and a shopping arcade.

Prices start at £720 per person, with single supplements from £90, and include scheduled flights, four nights' twinshare accommodation and breakfast. Extra nights and excursions are available on request.

VIENNA is a showcase of imperial grandeur, with baroque palaces and impressive collections of art and treasures. Enter *The Times* competition on March 31 and you could be exploring the city of Schubert, Mozart, Haydn, Brahms and Beethoven that evening.

Trams still trundle round the Ring and bowler-hatted cabbies drive their horse-drawn carriages around town. One of three hotels offered by Cox & Kings in the Austrian capital is the four-star Maria Theresa Hotel in the centre of the old town just beyond the Ring. The hotel has a restaurant, a snack bar and a cafe. All rooms are comfortably

Andalusian wonder



Ronda: the Andalusian city built by a gorge is famous for its fine cuisine

FRANCES Bissell, *The Times* cook, will be the teacher when the winners of next Monday's competition attend the Flavours of Spain cookery course in the south of Spain.

Andalusia is renowned for its fine food and the quality of its produce — it has olives, figs, almonds, walnuts and citrus fruits. Its ham is famous throughout the world and the region has delicate varieties of vegetables and fresh fish from both the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

Our Cox & Kings short break from May 5 to 10 offers a superb opportunity to experience authentic traditional cuisine in its natural setting, learning how to make the most of a wealth of local delicacies.

The winner will stay in Janet Mendell's home in the hills near Ronda, and the course includes a visit to a local market, lectures, demonstrations and hands-on experience in the kitchen.

It is designed to enhance skills at every stage of the culinary process from the selection of produce, to its preparation, presentation and consumption.

Frances Bissell knows Andalusia well and has written many cookery books. Janet Mendell will be the course director for the other tours and has spent the past 25 years in

Spain; her recipes have been gathered from local restaurants and kitchens and she has written two books on Spanish cookery and contributes to several international magazines.

Tours include scheduled flights from London to Gibraltar, five nights' twinshare accommodation, transfers, meals, demonstrations and lectures.

Prices range from £795 to £835 per person. In addition to the Frances Bissell course there are courses on March 17-22, October 6-11 and November 24-29.

□ The Andalus Express is made up of 16 immaculately restored carriages built in Britain and France during the 1920s and 1930s. The winner of *The Times* competition on March 27 will experience its splendid six-day journey through Andalusia, spending two nights at five-star hotels in Seville and three nights aboard the luxurious train.

See Seville, the mosque at Cordoba, the Alhambra in Granada and the sherry centre of Jerez.

Prices start at £1,675 per person and include scheduled flights, transfers, twinshare accommodation aboard the train and in five-star hotels, sightseeing, breakfast in hotels and full board on the train.

POSTS



HAILEYBURY

The Governors of Haileybury invite applications for the post of
HEAD

which will fall vacant in August 1996 on the retirement of
David Jewell MA MSc.

Haileybury is an independent boarding and day school for 600 children between 13 and 18 with a small day entry of boys at 11, and girls in the Vith form only. The School is in membership of the GBA and the present Master is a member of the HMC.

Further particulars, including a summary application form, may be obtained from:

The Secretary to the Council
Haileybury
Hertford, SG13 7NU
Tel: 01992 462507

The closing date for applications is 19 April 1995.
Registered Charity No 310013

GENERAL



THE REDEPTORISTS

Founded by St Alphonsus de Liguori, in 1732, to preach the Gospel to the poor in the Kingdom of Naples. Now One of the largest Congregations of priests and brothers in the Catholic Church working in every continent. The London Province (England, Scotland and Wales) is well known for Parish Missions, Youth, and School Missions, Retreats, Parishes, Publications, Pastoral Centres, and our mission in Zimbabwe.

- * Are you coming to the end of your full-time education, or work experience?
- * Interested in sharing in this vital work in the Church?
- * Why not consider the Redeptorists of the London Province?

We can offer you the following opportunities, either:

Formation and training for a life-long commitment as a Redeptorist, preaching the Gospel to the poor, Or:

A short term lay commitment living in community and sharing the mission of the Redeptorists.

What can YOU offer the Redeptorists?

For further details on the Redeptorist Vocation, write, phone, or fax:

Fr Terry Creech C.S.R. Vocations Director, Bishop Eton, Woolton Road, Liverpool L16 8NQ. Tel: 0151.722 1108. Fax: 0151.738 0834

For further details on the Redeptorist Vocation, write, phone, or fax:

Fr John Brookes C.S.R., St Benet's Monastery, Sunderland, SR6 0BH, Tel: 0191.567 2965. Fax: 0191.565 4054

The Redeptorists are a registered charity. Congregation of the Most Holy Redeptorists, A Registered Charity, No. 252941.

CHARTERHOUSE
Required for September 1995

TEACHER OF FRENCH & GERMAN OR SPANISH

A fine opportunity for an able young graduate to contribute fully to the life of a boarding school within a lively and thriving department.

For further details please contact:

Peter Hobson MA, Headmaster,
Charterhouse, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2DJ.
Telephone 0483 291601 Fax 0483 291647

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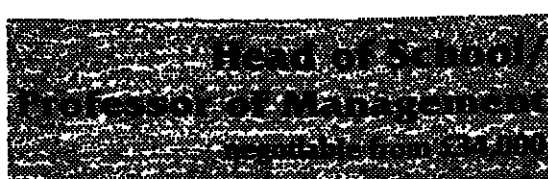
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EDUCATION

When the test is yet to come

The outrage against the budgets may have abated, but flashpoints lie ahead for Gillian Shephard, reports John O'Leary

Gillian Shephard may feel when she meets councillors this afternoon for the annual consultation on teachers' pay that she has already won at least half the battle.

Only six authorities have defied the Government's limits in their setting budgets for next year, and there are few signs yet of a parents' revolt. However reluctantly, most governors are preparing to take the tough decisions needed to balance their schools' books.

But the Education Secretary knows her field well enough to recognise that the issue is by no means dead. Parents may not see the effect until the autumn, but large numbers of teaching posts will be cut in the next few weeks.

Head teachers have been swapping horror stories at a meeting of their national association in York over the weekend. In Lancashire, for example, up to a quarter of heads expect to lose staff, and county officials acknowledge that as many as 50 schools may find themselves in financial difficulties. Governors are having to cope with a 5.5 per cent budget cut and a further bill for teachers' pay.

There were similar laments at a meeting of the association's branch secretaries last week. Yet the popular outrage generated by ministers' refusal to fund teachers' 2.7 per cent appears to have subsided.

Part of the reason for the lull lies in the timetable of local government. Most schools are only now learning how much money they will have for the financial year which starts next month. Many will not set firm budgets until April or even May.

Some governing bodies may still set illegal deficit budgets, but the process of bringing them to heel is likely to drag on. The Education Department will stay out of any conflict for as long as possible, leaving local authorities to take direct control.



In places such as Sheffield, adult education services have had to be squeezed in order to find more money for children's education

Teachers' and governors' organisations, which are lobbying MPs next week, believe that the cuts will come back to haunt Mrs Shephard when class sizes begin to rise again. Most have given up hope of winning extra money from the Treasury, but will keep pressing for local spending limits to be relaxed.

The six rebel authorities — Devon, Gloucestershire, Newcastle, Sheffield, Shropshire and Somerset — will all put their case for new capping limits to John Gummer, the Environment Secretary. But his answer is not expected until long after school governors are required to have set their budgets.

In Sheffield, which voted on Friday to overspend by £4.5 million, schools have been warned that they may face further cuts later in the year if the original cap is confirmed. The council has put an extra £5 million into education and increased the share of that budget allocated to schools to ensure that the pay rise is funded. Services such as adult education have been squeezed as a result.

Other authorities have adopted a variety of strategies to stay within capping limits. Brent, in north London, reimbursed schools for teachers' pay but not for inflation or the rising number of children. The National Union of Teachers claimed that the result would be a 2 per cent budget cut.

Croydon, in south London, is increasing council tax by 9 per cent

'If present plans are implemented, it will be even worse next year'

and dipping into reserves to fund the pay rise and protect school budgets. Mary Walker, the council leader, proclaimed last week: "We will not permit children's education to suffer. No teacher need fear the sack. Class sizes will not rise to unacceptable levels."

According to a survey by *The Times Educational Supplement*, however, at least £70 million will be

cut from education budgets in the 36 metropolitan authorities and 33 London boroughs. The counties expect to prune more than twice as much.

A few authorities, such as the London boroughs of Bromley, Camden, Newham and Southwark, are still planning to put more money into education, but most are raiding education services. Rochdale and Wakefield are planning to cut school milk, and other authorities are either raising the price of school meals or putting the service out to tender.

The local authority associations, whose meeting today is part of the statutory framework and not a negotiating session, will press for greater freedom to discriminate between schools. At present, funding formulae have to be applied rigidly, regardless of a school's financial position. The associations would like to give extra help to those in difficulties, at the expense of others with money in the bank.

They do not expect concessions from Mrs Shephard, who has weathered the storm so far. But there are flashpoints ahead: notably the teacher union conferences at Easter and the local elections in May. Both the NUT and the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers will debate calls for industrial action over rising class sizes, while Labour and the Liberal Democrats are sure to make capital out of the issue at the hustings.

In reality, however, strikes are likely to be confined to local disputes. Parallels with the national action over classroom tests are misleading because class sizes, while evoking equally strong feelings among teachers, vary both between and within schools.

Mrs Shephard's real test will come in the summer, when negotiations begin for next year's public spending round. Walter Ulrich, the spokesman for the National Association of Governors and Managers, and once a deputy secretary in the Education Department, says: "Balances can only be spent once and, if present plans are implemented, it is going to be even worse next year. The issue is not going to go away."

VIEWPOINT

A stiletto to handle a heel

The pioneers of higher education for women must be turning in their graves. Having fought so hard to prove that women were just as resourceful as men, what would they make of the female freshers of today? Initiative? Ingenuity? Not a bit of it! The modern student is seen as the weaker vessel indeed.

The current student starter pack is not as you might imagine, two black Birros and a pad of A4, but a rape alarm and a packet of condoms. Now what, you may ask, is wrong with that? Forewarned and forearmed. What could be more sensible?

But why the need for a rape alarm? How did their predecessors manage — those young ladies of a century ago who sallied forth from Girtton's walls with not even an aerosol to defend them against lustful undergraduates?

Were those young maidens defenceless? Certainly not! As they set off down the Huntingdon Road, every accessory they carried could if necessary become a formidable weapon.

Invited for a punt down the waters of the Cam, our young bluestocking held fast to her trusty parasol. Not only did it offer protection against the sun, but also protection of another kind, warding off unwelcome advances with a sharp and painful prod. The Girttonians of the 1950s used their stiletto heels to the same effect.

Consider the case, reported in *The Times* in 1914, of two young ladies both wearing two or three harpins protruding about three or four inches. With what horror did a witness observe one of the girls turn her head so that the harpin went into a neighbouring gentleman's eye. No serious injury resulted — but what an instrument for revenge!

Forty years earlier, the first young students at Girtton would have known well the use of a

"dagger fan" — so called because of the velvet-covered, dagger-shaped sheath. Who knows what injuries this object inflicted while proceeding sedately in the dance? It would come in useful at many a modern May Ball.

But today's student sports neither parasol, nor harpin nor fan. A rosesbud might repel unwelcome advances, a steel-capped book might damage a shrub or two, and a telescopic umbrella could help in an emergency. But most of her apparel seems to offer no protection at all. What help from a legging? Or, come to that, from a soft velvet hat?

Were she still in corsets, with their steel stays some three to four inches wide and 18 inches long, then she might indeed prove hard to embrace. Or if hooped petticoats returned to fashion, she could well bowl a man over, the hoops sustaining her honour as well as her undergarments. But such items are unlikely to make a comessary they carried could if necessary become a formidable weapon.

back. For cycling late to lectures, they are hardly suitable.

But if she cannot use her dress to defend herself, she can always — like her Victorian counterpart — use her appearance to attack. It is not by chance that the word "darning" has a double meaning. In earlier days, a well-placed curl, an immodest neckline — all could render a young man defenceless without their owner so much as lifting a finger. Nowadays the student has an even stronger battery — mini-skirts, shorts, skimpy tops and all-revealing slits — what chance does a young man stand?

So while fashions may change and student sartorial packs come and go, no self-respecting young lady need ever find herself unarmed. Parasol or rape alarm — the gentle sex are not what they seem. Let the unsuspecting fresher beware!

MARGARET LEESON

Summertime . . . and the learning is easy

Whether you want to learn bricklaying or embroidery, you'll find a summer school to match your needs. Ben Preston reports



Millfield offers golf lessons for parents, and a crèche



advantage of the beauty on its doorstep, specialising in arts courses. One of the most popular is painting and drawing, tutored by the renowned Lakeland artist David Harrison, aged 84. It is usually sold out even before the annual brochure is published, with an 80-year-old woman numbering herself among a devoted band of regulars who return each year.

Jazz, bridge, wildlife and rambling courses are also favourites, according to Alasdair Galbraith, the director.

"Students are typically in their fifties or sixties. They are at an age when they are keen to keep their minds sharp and

learn new things. And they are at a time of life when they need to do that to keep healthy," he says. Higham Hall itself has been on a sharp learning-curve over the past decade. The college, owned by Cumbria Council, has had to tack to the winds of change in local government and become financially self-sufficient. Student enrolments have doubled to more than 2,000 in the last three years. Student hours have actually rebelled because courses now last much longer.

Leading independent schools such as Millfield in Street, Somerset, Marlborough College, Wiltshire, and Cheltenham Ladies' College, Gloucestershire, have also

been quick to take advantage of picturesque surroundings. The Independent Schools Information Service is spearheading the sector's efforts to raise its profile, particularly for sports and outdoor activities.

The personal touch that comes with small classes is a guarantee which many experienced summer schoolers look for. Fairhope Fine Furniture Restoration in Mitchell, Cornwall, runs craft courses with a maximum of four students per tutor. The aim is to ensure that people receive the individual attention needed to make good progress, acquiring specialist skills ranging from French polishing to upholstery and marquetry.

Jackie Usher, who runs the centre with her husband, Graham, says that people used to the hurly-burly of urban, professional lifestyles most value the change of pace. "They slow down as they are taught to restore antiques which they have brought with them. They learn to enjoy the flavour of our more precarious existence in peaceful surroundings." The stressed are invited to go for a long walk on the beach to adjust.

Courses last between three and six days, with tuition costing from £235 to £425. Mr Usher says: "Most people take home two or more completed pieces and the knowledge to finish others. Our students are delighted at the money saved, but even more by their own sense of achievement from re-upholstering a Victorian chair or replacing cane and rush seats."

● *Time To Learn* is published by the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, 21 De Montfort Street, Leicester. Price £4.25.

● The Spring and Summer Schools Supplement for 1995 can be obtained from the Independent Schools Information Service, 36 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6AG. Price £1.

● Higham Hall College is at Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockerham, Cumbria CA13 9SH.

● Fairhope Fine Furniture Restoration Courses are held at Fairhope, Rose Terrace, Mitchell, Cornwall TR5 5AU.

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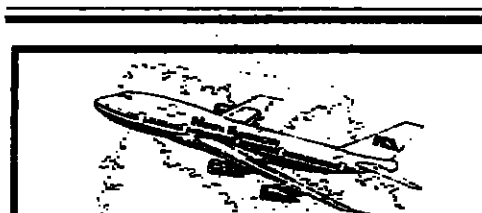
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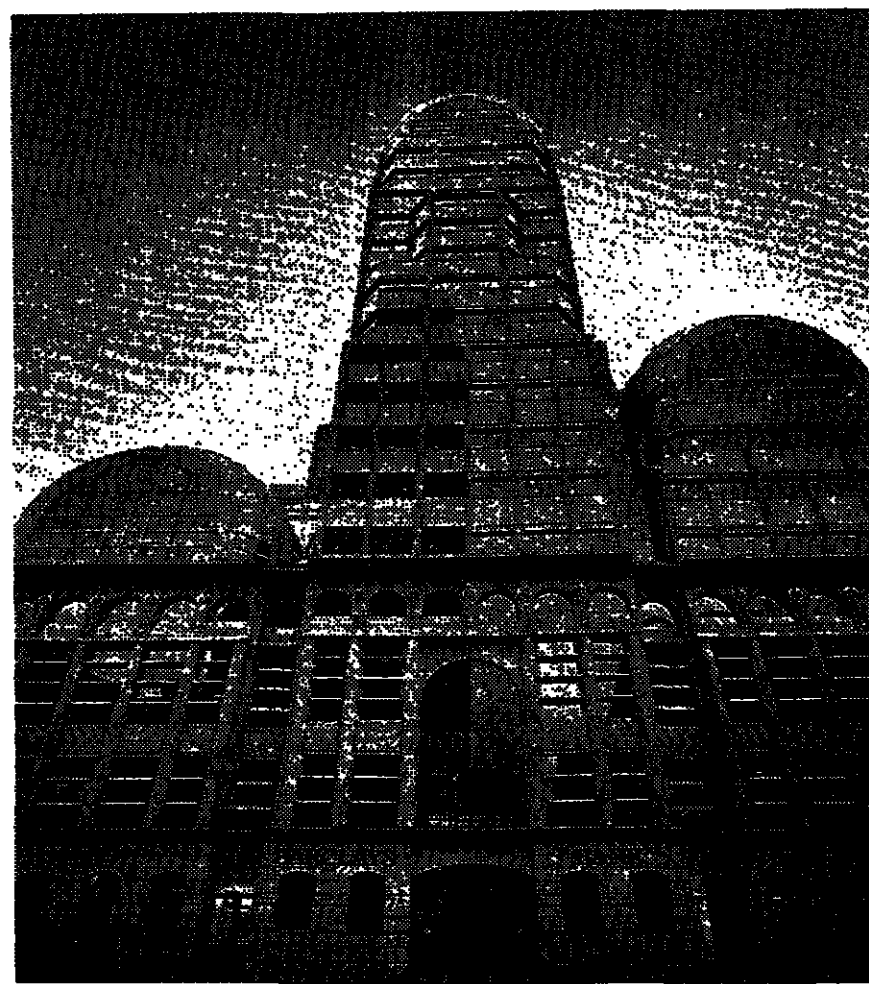
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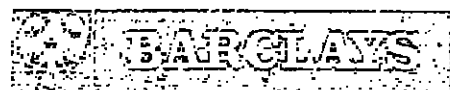
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FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

NEIL KINNOCK, the European Transport Commissioner, will tomorrow warn six European Union governments that they risk court action by the European Commission, unless they stop trying to negotiate bilateral open-skies air traffic agreements with America.

The governments of the six countries concerned — Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Austria — have told Mr Kinnock in a series of written declarations that they intend to ignore his warnings and press ahead with the bilateral negotiations.

Mr Kinnock says that the European Commission is in a stronger position to negotiate fair open-skies air deals with America than individual member states.

The Commission is particularly worried about the impact of bilateral agreements on the single European market for air transport. The Commission says that bilateral agreements would give US carriers access to the entire European market without having to concede reciprocal arrangements for carriers in European Union countries that have not negotiated similar agreements.

The former Labour leader will issue his warning of possible court action in a closed session of EU transport ministers, who will start a two-day meeting in Brussels today. France, the current holder of the EU's rotating six-month presidency, has already indicated its willingness

to broker a compromise between the Commission and the six governments, but there are no indications yet that a breakthrough may be achieved this week.

At a news conference on Friday, Mr Kinnock spoke of the possibility of legal action in the European Court of Justice. "If we commonly decide in the Commission that it is necessary... we will do that," he said.

He added that the bilateral agreements would have dangerous long-term implications. "What might be done now in haste will not easily or smoothly be undone in the future." He said such agreements would have "problematic consequences" for the whole of the EU.

The Netherlands negotiated an open-skies agreement with America at the end of 1992. Belgium and Austria recently concluded similar agreements.

The issue highlights the problem of the long-term knock-on effect of the single European market, especially if accompanied by a lack of clear distribution of powers.

Although member states regularly pay lip service to the benefits of the single market, attempts to curb the powers of the European Commission often clash with these objectives. In this particular case, there is a further complication. The single European open-skies policy allows only for restricted freedom of competition, while keeping a strong element of protection for national airlines.



The governments of six European Union countries have already told Neil Kinnock they intend to ignore him

Engineering pay rises held below inflation

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ENGINEERING pay settlements went above 3 per cent during the key month of January, but rises failed to keep pace with the rate of inflation, according to the Engineering Employers Federation.

With a third of this year's engineering pay deals now settled, the figures suggest that pay pressure in engineering, which has been leading the recent upward trend in settlements throughout the economy, is being successfully contained by employers.

On average, the 263 agreements reached in January awarded rises of 3.01 per cent, compared with headline inflation, measured by the retail prices index of 3.3 per cent.

However, some companies are conceding much larger rises: during the three months to end-January, 32 per cent of settlements exceeded 3 per cent, and 9 per cent of awards were higher than 4 per cent.

A total of 14 companies settled on rises of more than five per cent for employees. The upward pressure on pay in engineering reflects the strength of the export-led engineering recovery. GKN, the engineering group, last week

reported doubled profits and its first dividend increase since 1989.

The figures from the employers' federation suggest that some companies are starting to share their big improvements in productivity and profitability with the workforce.

The settlement figure averaged over the latest three months was 2.97 per cent. It reflects the average pay rise of 39,057 workers employed at 409 companies.

During the same period, RPI inflation has risen from 2.6 per cent to 3.3 per cent.

ABB gives warning of cutbacks

ABB, the Swedish-Swiss engineering group and leading UK rail equipment supplier, has warned the Government that further delays in rolling stock orders threaten survival of its York and Derby plants.

Percy Barnevik, president and chief executive of ABB, which is tendering a £400 million deal to supply Networker trains for the South East and a long-term maintenance package, said the lack of investment in Britain's railways would affect workloads next year. Unless new orders appear by autumn, it expects to start mothballing its York plant, which employs 750, and scaling down at Derby, where the workforce is 1,000.

WTO may be left without leader

THE World Trade Organisation, cornerstone of the Uruguay Round trade agreement, looks likely to have no permanent leader after eight months of wrangling between America and the European Union. Peter Sutherland, the last Secretary General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which was replaced by the WTO on January 1, is to step down on Thursday, with no successor in place.

M. K. Kesavapany, WTO chairman, is due to announce the results of a consultation tomorrow. In a first ballot Renato Ruggiero, the EU Italian candidate, was well ahead of Kim Sul-Chu, of South Korea, and Carlos Salinas de Gortari, former Mexican president, who was backed by America but has since withdrawn. America has suggested it opposes both remaining candidates and wants new names.

Amey wins £28m contract

AMEY HOLDINGS, the United Kingdom's fourth biggest road construction company, and the Miller Group have been awarded a £28 million design and build contract to upgrade a 12.5km stretch of the A1 between Tranent and Haddington in Lothian, near Edinburgh, to a dual carriageway. The contract — awarded to Amey-Miller, a joint venture between the two companies — is expected to be completed by the end of 1996.

Funds shun US shares

FUND managers' interest in buying US equities is still on the wane, despite Friday's record levels on Wall Street, according to the latest monthly poll by Smith New Court and Gallip. The March survey, involving 78 institutions handling funds of £1.047 billion, found that fund managers were sellers of US equities for the sixth consecutive month. For the first time since August, fund managers were net buyers of European equities.

Hanson joint venture

UGI METERS, a subsidiary of Hanson, has agreed a joint venture with Gujarat Gas Company, an associate of the Mahatma Group, one of India's biggest industrial groups and the biggest distributor of natural gas in India, to build a factory to make gas meters 90 miles southeast of Bombay. UGI is putting in \$800,000 and will hold 51 per cent. The Hanson company already has a joint venture with Beijing Gas and supplies the US gas industry with meters.

Union Pacific pays \$1bn

UNION PACIFIC, the US rail company, is to pay \$1 billion to take full control of Chicago and North Western Transportation, where it already owns a 30 per cent stake. The deal, which values CNW at \$1.6 billion, will consolidate Union Pacific's position as the largest railroad company in America, in terms of revenue. It operates 17,500 miles of track and CNW will add a further 5,600 miles, including a strategic direct link to the Wyoming coalfields.

GILT-EDGED

Cocktail of clues to inflation turning points

Inflation is on a rising trend and the export sector is booming. The last thing that the economy needs right now is a more competitive exchange rate. Yet this is what has been happening in recent weeks. Since the end of last year, the sterling trade-weighted exchange rate has declined by 3 per cent. It is down by 4 per cent relative to the average in 1994. Although this is not a substantial decline, it is worth recalling the rule of thumb seemingly followed for a time by the Treasury during the last period of buoyant growth, in the late 1980s, namely that each 4 per cent decline in the exchange rate merited a one percentage point rise in base rates in order to leave overall monetary conditions unchanged.

Times have changed. These days, the exchange rate is only one of a vast

array of indicators of inflationary pressure monitored by the UK authorities. Whether or not they react to the decline in the exchange rate depends on two important considerations. First, will the decline be sustained, and second, even if it is, are there other factors at work that will help to counteract the inflationary impulse from a lower exchange rate?

The extent to which the fall in the sterling index is sustained is likely to depend in large part on developments in the mark/dollar exchange rate, given the high correlation between movements in these two series over the past year. This is clearly beyond the control of the UK authorities. Nevertheless, if the recent decline in the value of sterling were sustained, this would add about 0.4 per cent to underlying retail price

inflation over the next 12 months. Given the narrowness of the Government's inflation target range, this could be significant.

However, there may be other factors already operating to reduce future inflationary pressure in the economy. For example, M0 growth has subsided from a peak of 7.3 per cent to 6.2 per cent since October, house prices have continued to edge lower, and both manufacturing output and retail sales volume have stagnated in the past three months.

Remember, too, that base rates have been raised by 150 basis points since September. The effects of this policy tightening on the economy are still to be felt fully.

In weighing up the importance of these often conflicting pressures on

inflation, it is useful to combine into a single leading indicator all those variables that historically have helped to predict turning points in inflation. This composite indicator has proved much more reliable at predicting turning points in inflation than any individual components.

Encouragingly, the Goldman Sachs longer leading indicator of inflation appears to have peaked last September. It has since been declining gradually. This would be consistent with a peak in underlying retail price inflation being recorded towards the middle of next year since, historically, the average lead time has been 20 months.

If these trends in our longer leading indicator are maintained, it would seem reasonable for the authorities to take a fairly relaxed attitude to the

decline seen so far in the exchange rate. However, a further 5 per cent depreciation from current levels would threaten a breach, albeit temporary, of the 4 per cent inflation target ceiling in the first half of 1996.

With the economy expected to slow during the course of the year in response to the tighter policy, it is probable that underlying inflation will peak around the middle of 1996. This could still prove problematic for the gilt-edged market in coming months since yields typically peak only about six months before the peak in the underlying inflation is actually recorded. The 9 per cent yield on 10-year gilts is likely to be tested again in the next few months.

DAVID WALTON
Goldman Sachs International

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.5820 (-0.0430)
German mark 2.2373 (-0.0921)
Exchange index 85.1 (-2.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 211.9 (+10.3)
FT-SE 100 3021.1 (-4.0)
New York Dow Jones 4035.61 (+46.0)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 16358.38 (-681.24)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.27	2.10
Austria S	13.61	15.41
Belgium F	48.77	45.47
Canada \$	2.368	2.208
Cyprus Cyp£	0.780	0.705
Denmark Kr	9.58	8.98
Finland Mk	7.55	6.91
France F	8.47	7.82
Germany Dm	2.41	2.20
Greece Dr	383.00	358.00
Hong Kong \$	13.08	12.08
Ireland P	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2937	4.5437
Italy Lira	2776.00	2620.00
Japan Yen	161.00	145.00
Malta	0.609	0.551
Netherlands Gld	2.687	2.457
Norway Kr	10.65	9.88
Portugal Esc	249.00	230.50
S Korea Rd	15.41	14.11
Spain Ptas	214.50	201.50
Sweden Kr	12.09	11.29
Switzerland F	2.02	1.84
Turkey Lira	16.00	8497.0
USA \$	1.704	1.574

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TEMPERING TIMES

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from Spain, managing private businesses of retired city banker seeks interesting position of similar status here. Speaks Spanish.

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In Hong Kong financial circles, the Jardine Matheson/Hong Kong Land group was unpopular long before it fell out with Peking and evoked echoes of the opium wars. Many in Britain admired the group's hardheaded refusal to kowtow by committing itself totally to post-1997 Hong Kong. To local detractors, this was another example of the princely arrogance and insensitivity. After the Northern Electric affair, it is easier to see what they meant.

When the expatriate aristocrats of Hong Kong Land took effective control of Trafalgar House, they were welcomed. Long-time management had become eccentric and accident-prone. Trafalgar had fallen on hard times. As the QE2's Christmas cruise demonstrated, however, the business accidents keep happening.

If new Trafalgar chairman Simon Keswick, and colleagues such as Downing Street guru Sir Charles Powell, were to turn the company into their group's London arm, they needed to make their mark. And they wanted something a bit more solid and reliable than the world-class process engineering business that Sir Nigel Brookes, Trafalgar's founder, had built up. In Hong Kong, there was nothing more reliable than a power or telephone company. Privatisation had made such companies available in Britain. The anti-takeover golden shares in regional electricity and water companies were expiring. Ministers wanted them to be exposed to the

Trafalgar broadside will sink hostile utility bids



GRAHAM SHEARMAN

rigours of the financial markets, even if they remained monopolies in trade. Trafalgar's logic was impeccable. Its execution was abominable.

Since Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, cast his thunderbolt at electricity shares last Tuesday, he has been vilified as no utility regulator before. In counting house and public alike, his title of professor has been spat out as if it denoted a comic turn or a mad scientist. The Opposition, which usually attacks *laissez-faire* ministers over utilities' profits, dividends or options, now dabs its collective eyes with a hanky while upbraiding heartless ministers for misleading investors in generating companies.

Given the changing political climate, however, events have unfolded with almost inexorable logic. Had Trafalgar been more astute, had its advisers spent more time looking at the real world instead of cooking up incredibly clever financial stratagems, they might have seen the pitfalls and avoided them. No one seems to have noticed that a takeover battle for a utility would inevitably interact with regulation. Trafalgar was, as it turned out, myopically unwise to mount a

hostile bid, rather than to spend time and effort reaching an agreed deal with one or other of the 12 regional electricity boards.

The discreet regulated utility likes to shade its light dividends but still keeping dividends rising faster than the stock market average. Any regulator, especially a professor, will notice this. So will customers, consumer councils and politicians. Utility regulation is a social contract as much as a legal one. The idea that a five-year price regime is set in concrete, as certain as the laws of contract, was hopelessly naive. That is not what regulatory stability means. If regulators reckon that the

any other defending company. It has to pull out all the stops, shout from the rooftops that it is far stronger and more profitable than shareholders imagined, that its prospects are infinitely rosier than investment analysts projected. The "tough but fair" regulatory regime becomes a feather bed at Trafalgar's Ritz Hotel, a licence to print money. And out goes the balanced approach. From now on, a well-coached defending management will say, it will direct its efforts unwaveringly to maximise shareholder value.

Northern Electric's defence was a tour de force. Aided by its share of the £4.5 billion National Grid — not noticed on privatisation — it offered to shareholders about £500 million in cashable pieces of paper while still keeping dividends rising faster than the stock market average. Any regulator, especially a professor, will notice this. So will customers, consumer councils and politicians.

Utility regulation is a social contract as much as a legal one. The idea that a five-year price regime is set in concrete, as certain as the laws of contract, was hopelessly naive. That is not what regulatory stability means. If regulators reckon that the

public they guard has been diddled, they will make every effort to change the deal. On a takeover, that may not be too hard.

Trafalgar's insensitivity could poison the well for other utility predators. There have been small low-profile deals in the water industry. In each case, Ian Byatt, the water regulator, insisted that customers receive a good share of direct economies via lower bills. But he did not try to take away all the financial incentives for mergers.

If Lyonaise des Eaux makes a hostile takeover bid for Northumbrian Water, however, Mr Byatt may take a different line. He may feel he should look at the premium price the bidder is offering. After deducting the cost-benefits of integration, he may conclude that he allowed Northumbrian a much higher cost of capital than Lyonaise requires. He has a good chance of getting his way. And if Northumbrian defends itself, he may argue that its management and shareholders evidently do not require such high returns as they claimed during the review.

The City fashion for hard-nosed hostile takeover bids simply does not fit the regulated utility sector. If Trafalgar is thinking of appealing to the Takeover Panel for another go, if arbitrators press Northern to co-operate, if emasculated bulls of regional electricity shares think that a quick regulatory fix will signal open season on the other 11, they should think again.

McDonald's serves up jobs model

Critics call the work "McJobs". Others see a step towards useful skills. Philip Bassett reports

"LET'S keep moving now!" "Server! Server!" "Yes, please — fries please!" "Come on! Come on! Customers!" It is lunchtime at a branch of McDonald's, the fast food chain, in London's Oxford Street. And it is fast: ten counter staff in red and white striped uniforms, none of them over 20, are frantically processing burgers, milkshakes and customers as the store manager shouts at them to keep the pace up.

Nearby, at the Oxford Circus branch, the frenzy is the same. An assistant manager runs along behind the counter as two serving staff barge into each other. "Who hasn't done the root beer?" someone barks angrily. "Servers out now, please!" the manager calls. "Come on! The queues are getting too long now — too long!" This is the life of most of McDonald's 33,000 staff in the UK — perhaps the epitome of the flexible labour market favoured by the Government.

In America, the kind of work McDonald's offers — attacked by critics as low-paid, low-skilled, low-value and low-security — has prompted the term "McJobs".

"That label is," says Carmel Flatley, American head of human resources for McDonald's UK, "used by people who don't know our packages and practices, who don't have a sensitivity to the public in terms of the jobs they are looking for. People don't necessarily want traditional jobs now. They want jobs that are flexible, and fit in with their schedules and lives."

Flexibility means matching labour supply with product demand. Following the after-school rush in the McDonald's in Oxford's main shopping street, demand has

eased, but the push is still on. "Fill up the drink cups — don't just stand around," the manager snaps at one of his counter crew.

A mile to the north, Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, will this week unveil the Government's latest unemployment and job figures. The free-market minister is a fan of McDonald's success, job creation and flexible labour practices, though he will endorse a more traditional form of employment when he tours the Oxford factory of Unipart, the motor component maker.

Mr Portillo will also see the company's training centre, "Unipart University". Few people looking at a company such as McDonald's in the competitive fast-food business think of training — but McDonald's started training in 1957. Its "Hamburger University" has a longer pedigree than the one that Mr Portillo will visit.

Begun in a basement at a McDonald's in Chicago — where its first graduates received a Bachelor of Hamburgerology degree with a minor in french fries — the US Hamburger U is now a big, fully-accredited residential training facility.

Its UK cousin is more prosaic — a wing of the British headquarters in East Finchley. "Training has always been a vital ingredient in the development of people in order to supply the quality that we want to provide for customers," says Ken Tomkins, corporate training manager and thus head of Hamburger University UK.

From its first British outlet in 1974, McDonald's has grown to 580, with another 59 to open this year. Each creates up to 70 jobs — a big recruitment and



Andrew Butchers, a former part-timer running a £2 million turnover McDonald's

management challenge. To meet it, the company extended its management training programme five years ago to take in A-level school-leavers, who now take a 92-week store-based course, with one day a week off for business studies.

Alan Butchers is one of its first graduates and, as the 23-year-old manager of a McDonald's with a £2 million turnover at Gatwick Airport, is one of its successes. As a part-timer with McDonald's while at school, he was sceptical about the company, as was his father, who runs a garage in Dover. "When I told him, when I was 17, I was going to work for McDonald's, he couldn't see the light at the end of the tunnel," he says. "Now, he's pleased."

Unlike some in the new flexible labour market, who get told by telephone that there is work for them *right now* if they can come in or it, Alan Butchers uses a computer programme to manage his 95 staff and aims to give them a week's notice of shifts. "It is hard work," he says. "But many people come to McDonald's with nothing and they go away with discipline, and an employment record. It teaches them a lot."

Leon Ramsay agrees. At 22,

this former part-timer with the company is now managing his first McDonald's, a store in Dundee, with turnover of £700,000. Another graduate of the company's Junior Business Management Programme, he knows his aims — to run the business well, to ensure a good profit, and to keep the customers happy.

He knows, too, that it is hard, demanding work for his 38 staff. However, with unemployment in Dundee at 9.8 per cent, well above the national average, he says that he is sure that the three McDon-

ald's in Dundee are helping to ease joblessness.

Both Mr Butchers and Mr Ramsay see their future with McDonald's, though the company knows that, for many people, it is a first job from which they will move on. Trade unions, which have largely failed to organise in the company, claim that this is because of poor pay and conditions. McDonald's denies it.

Current average pay for crews is put at £3.96 an hour in London, and £3.73 in the Midlands, with the North 1p lower. Average hourly rates rose by

up to 10 per cent last year, and, this week, new rates will be set for restaurant managers, currently on between £15,000 and £23,000 a year.

Union pay analysts say that a London crew rate of £138.60 for a 35-hour week is not only about three-fifths of total average earnings across the country, but about the same proportion of earnings in hotels, restaurants and service distribution generally.

The company says that its pay rates reflect its age profile: 40 per cent of counter crew staff are students, and two thirds are aged 20 or less. The illustration shows clearly that a breakdown of McDonald's workforce does not fit at all with the UK as a whole, with its age and full-time/part-time working structures, in particular, almost polar opposites of the national workforce.

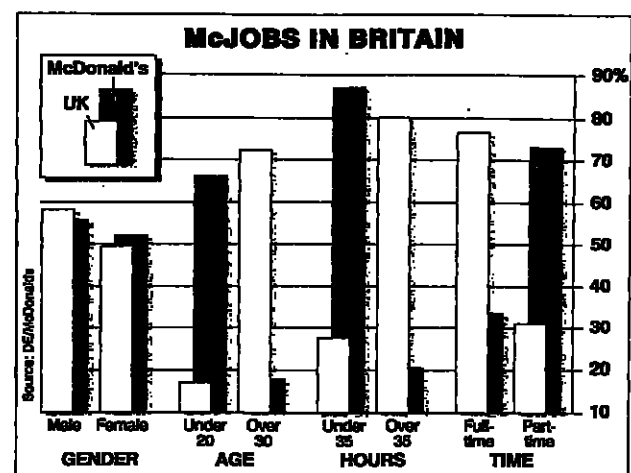
Critics of the company may see this as evidence of disadvantage to employees and of the negative impact of flexible labour markets, but McDonald's does not see it that way. It believes that its jobs help young people in particular, giving them confidence and transferable skills (especially of working in teams), and giving them work when they need it in a way that fits in with their lives.

Carmel Flatley argues that McDonald's offers many types of jobs — full-time, part-time and seasonal, and with flexible shift patterns that suit family life — which many people are keen to take.

McDonald's is changing the way it operates. Currently in the throes of a long High Court libel case — partly focusing attention on the company's working practices — it is being more open. It has been acknowledging mistakes with products and fitting in to British culture.

However, it is still a tough, competitive business, and the way that it is run reflects that. Leon Ramsay says: "We have up to 5,000 customers a week here. But they are not spending a lot of money — so we have to work very, very hard."

With ministers advocating labour market flexibility, the newly pro-active McDonald's is prepared to promote its jobs, its training, its pay rates, its working practices, and its growth. That will not satisfy its critics, but the McDonald's model, rather than the manufacturing one that Mr Portillo will see this week, is now probably nearer the pattern for the future of employment in the increasingly deregulated world of work in the UK.



THE TIMES CITY DIARY



Adventuring on the cheap

PERSONAL bitterness continues at former Pentos subsidiary Dillons. Book-browsers in its High Street Kensington branch have been confronted by a stack of remastered books, including 'Against My Better Judgement' — Adventures in the City and the Book Trade, by ousted Pentos supreme Terry Maher. The book, originally priced at £14.99, is marked down to £12.99, and now remastered at the ignominious price of £2.99. A case of sour grapes, or a wise retailing decision?

AS BRITISH Rail is progressively sold off, there is much scratching of heads about what to call what's left. One fairly serious suggestion was *Residual Rail*. But that was derided. So, how about *Rump Rail* as an alternative?

In the hotseat

HALF Britain's workers are employed in offices. If you are one of them, and still have your own desk, let alone the norm of 250 sq ft of space, beware cost-cutting accountants. Your desk days could be numbered. *Esquire* magazine says in an article that discusses the growing incidence of "hot-desking". That's a

culture in which employees carry their PCs and telephones around with them, and in which they have to try to find a spare desk on the days they need to come into the office. The process is not without trauma. Only the fittest ever secure possession of a whole desk. Weaker creatures, claims the magazine, are left to beg the use of corners of desks held by more Nietzschean-minded colleagues. Sounds a nightmare if you work in a German bank.

Heady stuff
ABSTEMIOUS types can really let themselves go. Lent

permitting, at a luncheon on March 23 that wine merchant John Armit is holding for wine critic Robert Parker. The cost is £160 per head. Corporate tables for ten people are going at £1,440. Champagne is included as an aperitif and six fine wines during luncheon. The venue is The Banqueting House, which, need I remind you, is from where Charles I stepped out of the first floor window to have his head chopped off. At those prices, guests who drink the wrong wine from the wrong glass might experience a similar fate.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Hearing sights and smells

Forties Season: Britain in Pictures. Radio 3, 9.15pm.

Collins's *Britain in Pictures* books, published in the 1940s, still grace many a bookshelf, including mine. They are minor works of art, slender and superbly printed, with exquisite colour plates that I was sorely tempted to cut out and frame. Michael Carney is dipping into four of them. Of course we miss the pictures, but in tonight's extracts from Leo Walmsley's *British Ports and Harbours*, the words perform a pictorial and olfactory function. Walmsley wrote about a boyhood visit to Liverpool docks jammed with ships, where the "briny vapours of the sea" blended with the smell of oil, tar, smoke and spices.

The Tree of Liberty. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

There are many puzzles in Nigel Baldwin's four-part murder mystery. Most of them concern the deaths of a farmer and his wife. But the puzzle that troubled me most has nothing to do with the play as whodunnit. It is simply this: what is a band playing syncopated 20th-century music doing in a drama set during the French Revolution? The plucking of guitar and plinking of banjo are perfectly in period. But *nightclub music*? Another question: what is music — any kind of music — doing in a serial that would be just as compelling without it? Heaven knows, Baldwin's script is complex enough without this extra complication. Peter Daville

RADIO 1

FM Stereo, 4.00pm Cive Warren 6.30
Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00
Lisa Farnham including at 12.30-
12.45pm Newsbeat and at 1.15 The Net
2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier
including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00
Evening Session 9.00 Alan Parker 10.00
Mark Radcliffe Midnight Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo, 6.00am Sarah Kennedy
8.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up
to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 8.30
Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm
Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05
John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30
Melcolm Laycock with Dancer 8.00 News
Days, and at 8.00 Big Band Special 9.00
Humphrey Lyttelton 10.00 Adventures in
Jazz 10.30 The Jamieson 12.05am
Dicky Fawcett 1.00 Steve Madden
3.00-6.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The
Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and
7.55 Racing Preview 8.55 The Maga-
zine, including at 10.35 Euronews
11.00 Actually 12.00 Midday with Mar-
including at 12.34pm Liz Barclay with
Moneycheck 2.05 Ruocco on Five 4.00
Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including
at 7.20 sport 7.30 Voices of the Old Firm
8.05 The Monday Match: Ring 01345
909933 to discuss Radio 5 Live's sports
coverage 9.05 Newsweek Special: Edu-
cation 9.35 01345 939993 11.30
Night Extra, incl 11.45 The Financial
World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side
of Midnight 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dees and Carol McGiffin
10.00 Chris O'Brien 1.00pm
Reuben 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00
Samantha Marsh and Sean Bolger 10.00
Cassie the Gossip 1.00am Wlfi Ali Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English
4.45 Pathmagazin 6.00 Newsworld 6.00
Morgenmagazin 7.00 News Today
7.00 News 7.15 The Inseparable Twins
7.30 Africa Face 8.00 News 8.10
Queen's Message to the Common-
wealth 8.15 Health Matters 8.30 Any-
thing Goes 8.00 News 8.05 Business
English 8.00 News 8.30 Avel 7.00
Learners' World 8.45 Sport 10.00 News
10.01 Guide to the Information Super-
highway 10.30 Vintage Chart Show
11.00 News 11.30 BBC English 11.45
Learners' Concerto 3.00 News 12.05
Queen's Message 12.15 My Music
12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook
2.30 The Inseparable Twins 2.45 Music
Interview 3.00 News 3.15
Commonwealth Day Observance 4.00
News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Avel
5.00 News 5.05 Business 5.15 BBC
English 6.00 News 6.30 Avel 7.00
News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 Essential
Duran 7.45 Health 8.00 News 8.10
Queen's Message 8.15 World Today
Europe Today 9.00 News 10.05
Business Report 10.15 Meridian 10.45
Sport 11.00 Newsweek 11.30 Multichat
Hit List 12.00 News 12.15am A Joy
Country 1.00 News 1.15am The French
3.00 News 3.15am 1.45 Health
Newsweek 2.30 My Music 3.00 News
3.15 Sport 3.30 John Peel 4.00 News

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Angela Rippon
12.00 Susan Smith 2.00pm
Learners' Concerto 3.00 News 3.15
Classic Reports 7.00 A to Z of
Classical Music 8.00 Evening Concert
10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mark
Gillies

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 11.00am 9.00 Richard
Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm
Wendy Lloyd 7.00am Joy Coyle 11.00
Nick Abbott 2.00am Janet Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University 8.55
Weather
7.00 On Air: Marina (Sonata in
Eco with three violins, Op 8);
Duke (Poème d'été; La
péri); 7.32 Quartet Collection:
Haydn (String Quartet in C,
Op 74 No 1); 8.05 Vivaldi
(Marcello Concerto in C);
Mendelssohn (Fingerring),
Op 71 No 2; Fingerring, Op
34 No 3; Bach (Partita No 3
in A minor, BWV 824)
9.00 Composer of the Week:
Wagner — The Apprentice
Years
10.00 Musical Encounters: Bridge
(Coronation March); 10.05
Artist of the Week: Dmitri
Hvorostovsky, baritone.
Rossini (Largo al factotum, II
barbiere di Siviglia); 11.30
Schumann (Waldszene, Op
82); Locatelli (Violin Concerto
in G, Op 3 No 5, L'arte del
violino); J.C. Bach (Symphony
in E flat, Op 15 No 1); 11.55
(Symphony: Spring Fire)
12.00 Singing in the Rain: The
Vienna State Opera. With
music from operas by Mozart
and Strauss
1.00pm BBC Lunchtime
Concert, live from St John's,
Smith Square, London, the
Chilvington Quartet performs
Hugh Wood (String Quartet
No 4); Beethoven (String
Quartet in F minor, Op 35)
2.00 Schools: 20th-Century
Soundscapes 2.15 Storybook
2.25 Let's Move 2.45 First
Steps in Drama
3.00 The BBC Orchestra: BBC
Philharmonic performs
Shostakovich (String Quartet
No 3)
3.45 Dutch Royal Organs: Gerrit
Oost plays

RADIO 4

6.55am Shipping Forecast 8.00
News Briefing, incl 6.03
Weather 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,
8.00, 8.30 News 8.55, 7.55,
Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports
News 7.45 Thought for the
Day 8.40 History File: Stuart
Simon looks back over nearly
20 years with Radio 4's File
on 4.05 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week,
presented by Melvyn Bragg
and Thomas Sutcliffe, with
Sean Campbell, Cristina
Odone, Richard Klein and
Frank Tipler
10.00-10.30 News: Wordly Wise
(FM only): Panel game
chaired by Peter Hobday
10.00 Daily Service (LW only):
from the Cathedral Church of
St Andrew
10.15 Something Understood (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Introduced
by Jenni Murray
11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-
580444
12.00 News: You and Yours
12.25pm Counterpoint: Second
semi-final of the music quiz
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News: The Tree of Liberty:
See Choice
3.00 The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:
Richard Strauss's opera
Salome at Covent Garden;
and Immortal Beloved, a film
about Beethoven
4.45 Telling Stories: Gillian Baver
reads Poor Old Man by Clare
Boylan
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The News Quiz: Barry Took
chairs the game show (1)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme: With
Dorothy Cooper (1)
7.45 The Monday Play: Untold
Secrets. Elizabeth
Margaret's play portrays the
relationship between two sisters
and the impact of
revelations made by one of them
on the life of the other.
With Brenda Blethyn, John
Newell and Fiona Christie
9.00 Dr. Barnaby's Travels: The
last of four programmes
charting the music historian's
tours of Europe in the 1770s,
with Timothy West as Charles
Barnaby. Dr. Barnaby hears
Friedrich the Great play the
flute and defends the
outlandish modern music of
C.P.E. Bach
9.30 Kaleidoscope (1) 9.59
Weather
10.00 The World Tonight: With
Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy
and Mehitabel. Don
Marquis's story about Archy,
a poet reincarnated as a
cockroach, abridged in eight
parts (6/8)
11.00-11.30 Eurostar (FM only): Dr.
Mary Archer joins Barbara
Myers (1)
11.00 Education Matters (LW
only): presented by Times
columnist Libby Purves
11.30-12.00 The Vacillations of
Poppy Carron (FM only): A
semi-part dramatisation of Mary
Wiles's novel, with Beatie
Edney (4/5) (1)
12.00-12.45am News incl 12.27
Weather 12.35 Shipping
12.45 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 98.9-101.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-
92.4. RADIO 4: 1984/12/15/15m. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 158. RADIO 5:
603kHz/433m. 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1584/12/15/15m. FM
97.2. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m. FM 95.8. GLR: FM 94.9. BRILLO
SERVICE: MW 648kHz/243m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN
MW-1215. 1197. 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings
compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Mew

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SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

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Incidentally, I've heard that song before

As the potency of cheap music abounds, its use, but certainly earns its place in spelling out the requisite mood. Over the weekend, one might have noticed *As Time Goes By* played by a colonial fiddler in a thin, minor key during Sharon Maguire's beautiful and dreamlike *Bookmark* on Rumer Godden's *India* (BBC2). During yesterday's *Encounters* (Channel 4) about Exmoor's puma hunters, the lark soundtrack played variations on a theme from *The Pink Panther*, and at the end of the first part of the bizarre new drama *Band of Gold* (ITV), throaty Barbara Dickson sang a passionate *Love Hurts* over the fast-rolling credits.

This was where it got confusing, however — where it made you wonder whether dramas should pause for a moment before automatically naming themselves after pop songs. I mean, surely there is

already a series called *Love Hurts*. And secondly, there is a very famous pop song called *Band of Gold* — which, in subconscious preparation for the entertainment in store, I had been singing around the house for at least a week. Was there a last-minute wrangle over performance rights? Well, whatever happened, the result was peculiar. Perhaps next week the sign-off song will be *Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick*.

Band of Gold is a six-part drama about prostitutes in Bradford, designed to be controversial. Bad luck for writer Kay Mellor to launch her series on the weekend of Channel 4's *Red Light Zone*, but there you are, life's like that. Mellor's well-publicised aim is to give the prostitutes' point of view, show them as mothers and workers and women like any others, who sell themselves in return for security. "Those that can are Ores; those that can't are Ore-

Wives, right?" said Carol (Cathy Tyson), flatly, as she adjusted her bra to show better.

Gina (Ruth Gemmell) agreed. She was a tall, pale, mousey young woman, with legs to her chin, who needed money for her kiddies' shoes. Selling make-up on commission wasn't enough. She had banished her violent husband from the house (though he seemed a nice man, with his own ladder and everything); meanwhile a sinister loan shark had designs on her microwave. Gina's usual expression — shock, hurt, annoyance, pink eyelids — was of a face that just been stung.

So it seemed that *Band of Gold* was sociological drama along the lines of Ken Loach (only not as good, and without authentic bad language), with big bossy Rose (Geraldine James) striding around the smoky pub, telling everybody what to do:

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

and baby blonde Tracy (Samantha Morton) taking grief from her Asian pimp; and punters drawing up in cars with the licence plates unscrupulous. But then, with an audible gasp change in the last five minutes Gina was found dead on the moor, and *Band of Gold* turned into a whodunnit. The let-down was considerable.

Who killed Gina? Ho hum. Rose and Cathy, plus friend Anita

(Barbara Dickson) flapped their wings in panic, while the viewer wearily rehearsed the list of suspects, thinking "Why am I doing this? I don't want to do this." Still, there are plenty of malevolent males to choose from — a creepy punter in the pub; the mild chap Carol stole money from; the muscle-jawed loan shark who studies little dollies as though poised to rip their hair out; Gina's stepfather Bob; and above all — surprise, surprise — Deakin.

Yes, Tony Doyle appears in *Band of Gold*, playing George, an "important businessman", but no viewer worth his salt will believe this pathetic story. We have been too well trained by *Between the Lines* — that John Peel is the bottom of everything, whether it makes sense or not. Just innocently adjusting George's tie on a landing, descending the stairs, grabbing a briefcase and leaving ("Screw me and sod off," yelled his

kept woman after him, "That's all you ever do") — it was impossible not to reawaken those pre-programmed groans of recognition. I struck my forehead in the required manner. "Deakin! Of course!"

The Rumer Godden *Bookmark* was stunningly made — bleached colour, silences, a Steadicam (hand-held camera) circling the proud old writer in shady hat and red shawl as she surveyed without expression the foothills of Kashmir. She had fled India more in sorrow than anger 50 years ago, when she found ground glass in her children's food. Godden was brave to return to the places which had troubled and inspired her. What came across strongly was her fascination for India's sexuality — to understand Hinduism, she asserted, you must appreciate the worship of the penis and vagina (pronounced *va-jena*, like Ri-

benza). She stood rapt at the erotic temple carvings she'd refused to visit with her philistine husband on their honeymoon. "I decided I had rather not see it at all," she explained without remorse, "If I had to see it with Laurence."

Finally, to the beast of Exmoor, a contested phenomenon which inspires ostensibly sane men and women to collect animal droppings and stir them in hot water in a Pyrex bowl. It makes grim-faced hunters dress up in camouflage gear; and photographers trail car food behind them in a string bag. Last night's *Call of the Beast* (*Encounters*, Channel 4) was a jolly, perky, and beautifully made film, with the occasional spooky X-Files overtones of "the truth is out there". But it raised the question: if they want to get big cats to show themselves, why bother trailing great heavy sheep carcasses about? Why not just shake a large packet of Friskies?

- BBC1**
- 6.00 Business Breakfast (23400)
 - 7.00 Breakfast News (9520205)
 - 9.05 Kilroy. Members of a studio audience discuss a topic of particular interest to them (s) (5333329)
 - 10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7881110) 10.05 The Early Days (s) (5675313)
 - 10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekly family magazine (s) (7090077)
 - 12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1433668) 12.05 Pebble Mill (s) (7228241) 12.55 Regional News and Weather (1505787)
 - 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (93349) 1.30 Newsround (Ceefax) (s) (7764296) 1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly introduces the final heat for the second quarter-final (s) (7765307)
 - 2.15 Knots Landing. Mack is worried that Summer will try to take his daughter (s) (1368313) 3.00 Today's Gourmet with Jacques Pepin (8131)
 - 3.30 Droopy Double Bill (s) (2013503) 3.45 Bodger and Badger (s) (2018058) 4.00 Jackanory. Bill Paterson reads Gossie by Ted Hughes (s) (4243239) 4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant (Ceefax) (s) (537377) 4.35 Tomorrow's End (s) (Ceefax) (1561771)
 - 5.00 Newsround (6848139) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (8958435)
 - 5.35 Neighbours (s) (Ceefax) (s) (959416)
 - 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (435)
 - 6.30 Regional news magazines (787)
 - 7.00 That's the Showbusiness. Mike Smith is joined by Leah Bracknell, Tim Vincent, Mickey Hutton and Caroline Hook (Ceefax) (s) (4874)
 - 7.30 Watchdog. Includes a warning about common on the Internet, the worldwide information superhighway. Presented by Anne Robinson with Alice Beer (Ceefax) (s) (771)
 - 8.00 EastEnders. Steve is under financial pressure (Ceefax) (s) (9042)

- BBC2**
- 6.20am Open University: East Meets West — Asian Families, Western Culture (7212706) 6.45 Lifestyles, Work and the Family (2630566) 7.35 Managing Schools (5951961)
 - 8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) and weather (7771) 8.15 Westminster On-Line with Sarah Baxter. Today's guest is the Transport Secretary, Brian Mawhinney (s) (4040394)
 - 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25 Playdays (8786619) 1.45 Words and Pictures (2523877) 2.00 Tales of Aesop (5688787) 2.05 Rupert (8790085)
 - 2.15 FILM: Rising Son (1990) starring Ben Denney and Piper Laurie. A father finds his son's innocence hard to bear. Directed by John David Coles (Ceefax) (77752) 8.50 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (685757)
 - 4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (400)
 - 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Innovative recipes (s) (684)
 - 5.00 Esther. A discussion on the effect of domestic violence on children (s) (1400)
 - 5.30 Catchword with Paul Coo (s) (936)
 - 6.00 FILM: We Dive at Dawn (1943, b/w) starring Eric Portman and John Mills. Second World War submarine drama directed by Anthony Asquith (Ceefax) (56894)
 - 7.30 Crufts 95 (s) (313)
 - 8.00 Horizon: The Betrayers (Ceefax) (s) (27706)
 - 8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. O is for Opulent Endings (Ceefax) (s) (813665)
 - 9.00 Bottom (n) (Ceefax) (s) (7968)

- CUTTING EDGE: CASINO**
Channel 4, 9.00pm
- Casinos, like courts of law, are normally out of bounds to the television camera. But the Gambling Board has relented to allow the director Rob Rührer to penetrate the Clifton Casino at Lytham St Annes and observe the regulars at play. Indeed the film is much more about people than the finer points of poker and roulette. Rührer has assembled a colourful cast, all of whom admit cheerfully to their addiction. One punter, Ray, describes the habit as a disease and talks about being "frozen" in the table. The person to let sorry for is "Elaine" — a gambler's widow — whose husband, Howard, often abandons her for a whole night, and sometimes two, and is planning a trip to Las Vegas without her. When she threatens divorce, he laughs.
- Horizon: The Betrayers**
BBC2, 8.00pm
- The message of Barbara Alton's eye-opening film is that you should not believe everything you read in the learned journals. Doctors and scientists, it seems, are not making spurious claims for their research. It will help their careers or line their pockets. Three alleged cases are recounted and they make uncomfortable viewing. In one, a doctor claimed to have hit on a new surgical technique for tackling a colon disorder. According to an independent expert it would be more likely to kill patients than cure them. As if the existence of fraud was not worrying enough, the programme reveals that unlike the United States and some Scandinavian countries, Britain has no independent body to investigate it.

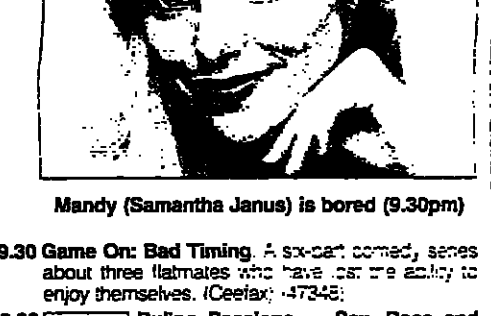
- CARLTON**
- 6.00am GMTV (44481)
 - 9.25 Chain Letters (s) (307557) 9.55 London Today (Teletext) and weather (8670868)
 - 10.00 The Time... the Place (s) (7878348)
 - 10.35 This Morning (2643619) 12.20pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (1422752)
 - 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2074435)
 - 12.55 Coronation Street (s) (Teletext) (2866226) 1.25 Home and Away (Teletext) (57893042)
 - 1.55 Capital Woman. A mother and daughter are given beauty tuition in the comfort of their own home (s) (5358438) 2.25 A Country Practice (s) (7463412) 2.50 Blue Heelers (714650)
 - 3.20 ITN News headlines (8950329) 3.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (5879400)
 - 3.30 Rainbow (s) (2024619) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (885139) 3.50 Scooby Doo (s) (2369005) 4.15 Henry's Mad (Teletext) (s) (282665) 4.45 Art Attack with Neil Buchanan (Teletext) (s) (1552023)
 - 5.10 After 5 with Mary Nightingale (Teletext) (6056042)
 - 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (200508)
 - 5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (806400)
 - 6.00 Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (503)
 - 6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (955)
 - 7.00 Talking Telegraph Numbers. Emma Forbes and Philip Schofield's guests include comic Norman Collier and Catherine Zeta Jones (s) (1690)
 - 7.30 Coronation Street. Gail's world comes tumbling down (Teletext) (139)
 - 8.00 Lucky Numbers with Shane Ritchie (4110)
 - 8.30 World in Action. Current affairs (Teletext) (s) (6145)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Sandokan (s) (2079706)
 - 7.00 The Big Breakfast (78941)
 - 9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (s)
 - 9.30 Schools. Video Penpals (5374688) 9.45 Deltive into Literature (5406619) 10.02 Stage Two Science (6003503) 10.20 Place and People: New Zealand (1700752) 10.40 The English Programme (4132413) 11.05 Encyclopaedia Galactica (8901705) 11.15 The Music Show (8677380) (8452058) 11.30 Rata-Tai-Tai: Hot Hippo (4077435) 11.45 Junior Technology (4056590)
 - 12.00 Right to Reply (Teletext) (s) (6) (28336)
 - 12.30pm Sesame Street. Siskel and Ebert star with AM and the number 12 (14955)
 - 1.30 Little Miss followed by Paddington, Frootie Tooties and The Wombles (3582658)
 - 1.55 The Pulse (Teletext) (s) (3583407)
 - 2.25 Travels A La Carte. Norway. Sophie Grigson and William Black are in the Lofoten Islands, where they learn to make fishcakes. (Teletext) (s) (551597)
 - 3.00 The Late Late Show. Topical chat from Dublin with Gay Byrne (s) (414023)
 - 3.55 Gardens Without Borders: Italy (s) (Teletext) (s) (5517955)
 - 4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (752)
 - 5.00 The Golden Girls: Sophia's Choice. Sophia visits an old friend. (Teletext) (s) (3868)
 - 5.30 Nurses: Kind, Considerate Kare. Anne refuses to compromise on patient care (s) (Teletext) (s) (232)
 - 6.00 The Cosby Show: Eat, Drink and Be Wary (s) (Teletext) (145)
 - 6.30 Hangin' With Mr Cooper. Mark introduces Geneva to a teacher. (Teletext) (s) (597)
 - 7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (Teletext) (115526)
 - 7.50 The Slot. Viewers' opinions (857232)
 - 8.00 Quetzal Cloud Forest. The Chapas region of southern Mexico is one of the few places where virgin cloud forest still exists. Cameraman John Hams spent eight months there tracking the wildlife (Teletext) (2752)
 - 8.30 Only When I Laugh: Conduct Unbecoming Hospital comedy (s) (Teletext) (14787)



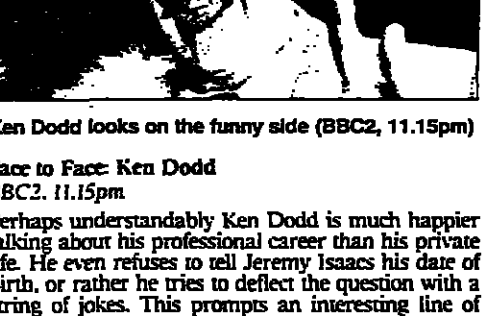
Holmes, McGuire and Lyndhurst (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Time-travelling comedy starring Nicholas Lyndhurst, Michelle Holmes and Victor McGuire (Ceefax) (s) (1077)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2597)
- 9.30 Panorama. Another hard-hitting investigation from the current affairs team (633771)
- 10.10 Sportsnight Special. Highlights of WBO heavyweight champion Herbie Hide's first defence against America's Riddick Bowe from the MGM Grand in Las Vegas (s) (254313) Wales: 10.10 A Parent's Guide (897923) 10.25 Face Off (732322) 11.00 Sportsnight Special (553226) 11.05 Film sive with Barry Norman (869771) 12.00-1.00am FILM: Creatures of the World Forged (1837714)
- 11.00 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *Little Women*, *Priest* and *Immortal Beloved* (Ceefax) (s) (7042)
- 11.30 FILM: *Creanora the World Forged* (1837714). Hammer horror yarn of Stone Age rivalry between twin brothers. Starring Julie Ege, Tony Bonner and Robert John. Directed by Don Chaffey (Teletext) (829691) 12.55 Weather (206085)



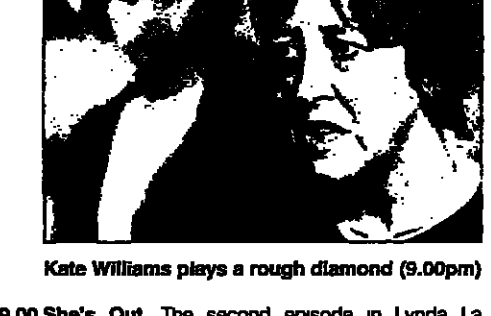
Mandy (Samantha Janus) is bored (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Game On: Bad Timing. A sex-crazed comedy, series about three flatmates who have lost the ability to enjoy themselves (Ceefax) (47343)
- 10.00 CHOICE: Ruling Passions — Sex, Race and Empire: Black Peril (Ceefax) (s) (19077)
- 10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxton (Ceefax) (972508)
- 11.15 CHOICE: Face to Face: Ken Dodd (s) (819684)
- 11.55 Weather (266868)
- 12.00 Body Social (4359917)
- 12.25am Creativity and Conceptual Design (2973662)
- 1.25 The Record (4500820) Ends at 1.50
- 2.00-3.40 Night School: Modern Languages (122882)
- 4.45 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (40325443) 5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture (75998) 5.30 RCN Nursing Update (25282)



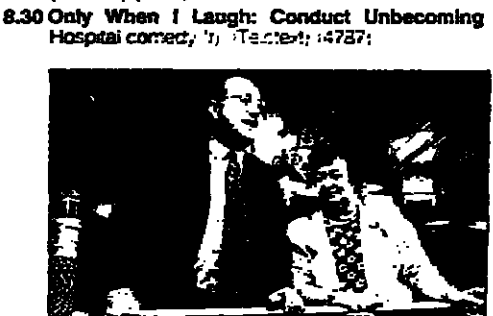
Ken Dodd looks on the funny side (BBC2, 11.15pm)

- 11.55 Face to Face: Ken Dodd (s) (819684)
- 12.00 Body Social (4359917)
- 12.25am Creativity and Conceptual Design (2973662)
- 1.25 The Record (4500820) Ends at 1.50
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- 4.45 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (40325443) 5.00 Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture (75998) 5.30 RCN Nursing Update (25282)



Kate Williams plays a rough diamond (9.00pm)

- 9.00 She's Out. The second episode in Lynda La Plante's new series following the fortunes of Dolly Rawlins. Audrey Wintney gets take diamonds made up to replace the ones she has sold. With Kate Williams (s) (7813)
- 10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (78413)
- 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (603955)
- 10.40 Sport in Question. Jimmy Greaves and Ian St John's guests include Ben Moore and Frances Edwards (s) (787706)
- 11.40 The Equaliser (553226)
- 12.45am Endersleigh Leisure Extra (4657288)
- 1.30 Sport AM (3971004)
- 2.25 Quiz Night. The Butcher's Arms from Merseyside take on the Prince of Wales from Salford (7446207)
- 2.55 FILM: Queen of Diamonds (1971) starring Claudia Cardinale and Stanley Baker. When a fortune teller outwits her partner in crime, he joins forces with a police inspector in a bid to track her down. Directed by Jean Herman (5767733)
- 4.25 On the Live Side (s) (33449707)
- 4.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (s) (76580240)
- 4.55 The Time... the Place (s) (7682795)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (56608) Ends at 6.00



Punters gamble on winning (9.00pm)

- 9.00 CHOICE: Cutting Edge: Casino (Teletext) (s) (5955)
- 10.00 NYPD Blue: You Bet Your Life. A man who planned a pawn shop robbery claims his former cellmate committed the crime. (Teletext) (s) (625918)
- 10.55 Channel 4 Racing: The Cheltenham Festival. Brought back reports from the Cotswold course, previewing the premier jump racing series. (s) (372058)
- 11.30 FILM: Crush (1992). Drama set in the Australian hot springs town of Rotorua, where an American woman insinuates herself into the lives of a famous writer and his daughter. Directed by Alison Maclean. (Teletext) (462415)
- 1.25am FILM: In Caliente (1935, b/w). A musical starring Dolores Del Rio and Pat O'Brien. Directed by Lloyd Bacon. Ends at 3.00. (387207)

- ANGLIA**
- As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (7764710) 2.20 Houseboat (7452297) 2.50-3.30 Blockbusters (714660) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6056042) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (193464) 10.40-11.10 The Big Breakfast (7452297) 11.10-11.30 Anglia News (193464) 11.30-11.50 Anglia News (193464) 11.50-12.00 Anglia News (193464) 12.00-12.30 Anglia News (193464) 12.30-1.00am Anglia News (193464) 1.00-1.30am Anglia News (193464) 1.30-1.50am Anglia News (193464) 1.50-2.00am Anglia News (193464) 2.00-2.30am Anglia News (193464) 2.30-3.00am Anglia News (193464) 3.00-3.30am Anglia News (193464) 3.30-4.00am Anglia News (193464) 4.00-4.30am Anglia News (193464) 4.30-5.00am Anglia News (193464) 5.00-5.30am Anglia News (193464) 5.30-6.00am Anglia News (193464) 6.00-6.30am Anglia News (193464) 6.30-7.00am Anglia News (193464) 7.00-7.30am Anglia News (193464) 7.30-8.00am Anglia News (193464) 8.00-8.30am Anglia News (193464) 8.30-9.00am Anglia News (193464) 9.00-9.30am Anglia News (193464) 9.30-10.00am Anglia 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ING removes Barings pair from posts

By NEIL BENNETT IN SINGAPORE AND SARAH BAGNALL IN LONDON

TWO senior Barings executives in Singapore have been removed from their jobs by Internationale Nederlanden Groep in the wake of its takeover of the crashed merchant bank, the first since Nick Leeson, the former Barings futures trader, made his departure.

The news came as Christopher Sharples, chairman of the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), told BBC's *Panorama* programme that any "guilty" Barings staff will never work in the City of London again. He said that although he could not comment on the individuals yet, the SFA had barred many people for lesser offences in the past. "It's extremely likely that some of the people who prove to be culpable in this regard will find they have to seek a career outside the City," he said.

ING disclosed its actions as it announced that Baring Futures (Singapore), the subsidiary that caused the Baring group's collapse, is to be liquidated once creditors have been repaid. ING will today set up a new futures trading subsidiary in Singapore, to be called Baring Futures International and expected to begin trading in the next few days.

James Bax, the regional

director of Barings's securities operations in South-East Asia, is not being reappointed as a director of the new futures company. It was Mr Bax who warned Barings three years ago against giving Mr Leeson too much power. Simon Jones is also not being reappointed to the futures company and is losing his main job as finance director of Barings Securities in Singapore.

Cees Maas, an ING director, said that the two men would remain in the group for the time being. "We will try to make use of Mr Bax's great knowledge of the security business in Asia," he said. Barings Securities has been forced to bring in a temporary finance chief from Price Waterhouse while the search starts for Mr Jones's replacement.

Mr Bax has been questioned by the Singapore authorities since Mr Leeson's sudden departure and has had his passport confiscated. He is expected to stay in Singapore while investigations continue. Mr Maas said that it was "unlikely" that any of Mr Leeson's former colleagues will receive their bonuses for 1994 since the futures company they worked for is being liquidated. Most of Barings's 4,000 staff are expected to receive their bonuses in full.

Some futures traders have been expecting bonuses of up to £1 million after high profits last year.

ING said that it will take control of Barings's operations in Singapore today after a weekend of intense negotiations with the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). The takeover safeguards 140 jobs, mostly in the group's large and successful Singapore stockbroking firm. The MAS took the unusual step of granting all the licenses on a Sunday to allow ING to reopen the business as quickly as possible. The main securities operations will reopen for trading on Tuesday with a new team.

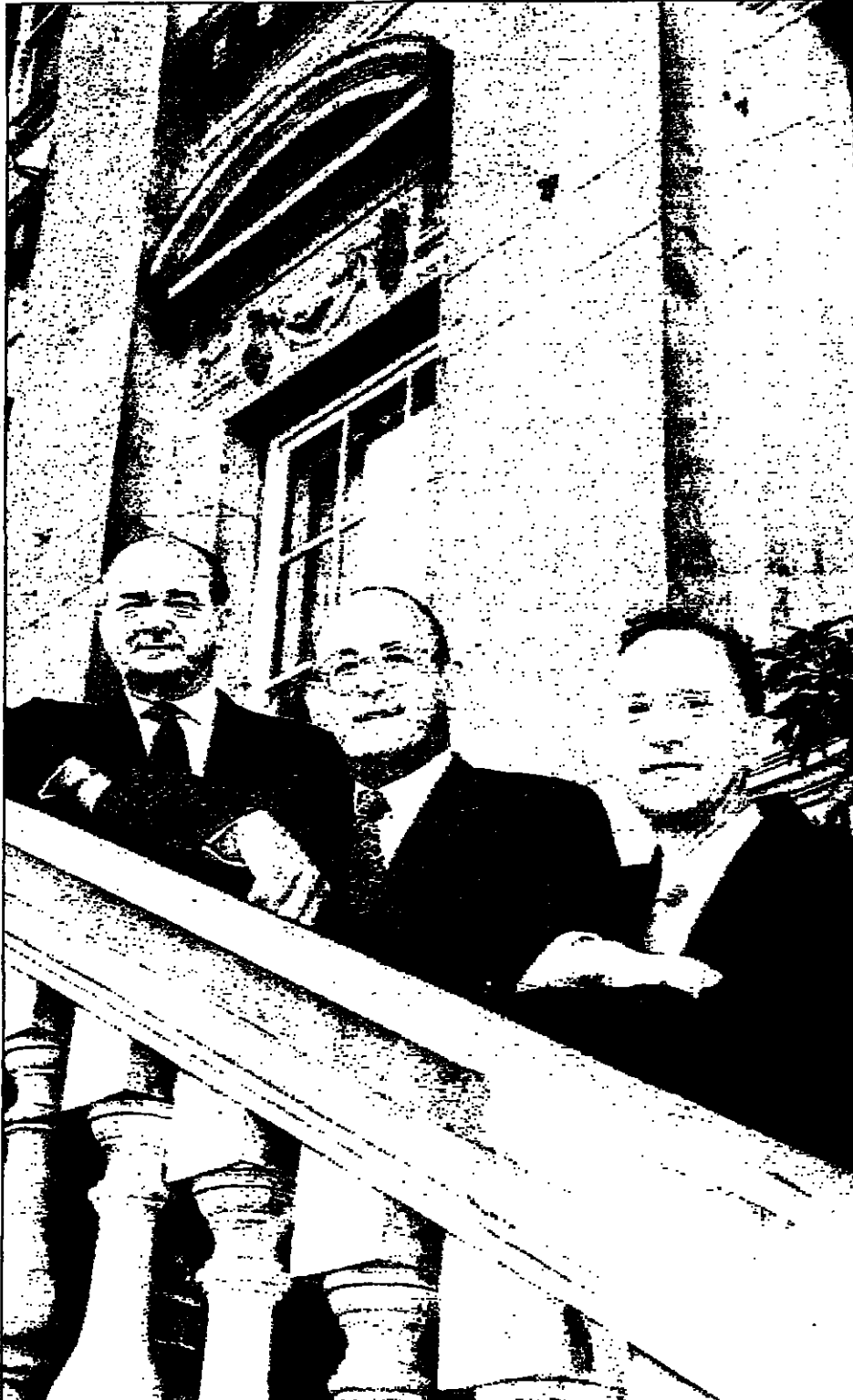
Jaap Manse, ING director for the Far East, said: "There was a distinct lack of control at Barings Futures and a lack of following the rules that apply in a normal organisation."

The bank has asked Price Waterhouse, the judicial manager of the old futures business, to advise it on installing rigid reporting lines. Mr Sharples said that the FSA had barred Mr Leeson from trading on London markets in 1992 because he lied on his application form. The FSA, the regulatory body that polices all City institutions and issues trading licenses, informed Barings of the reasons for turning down Mr Leeson's application, in spite of which the bank made him a trader in Singapore.

The FSA claims that, in March 1992, Barings sought approval for Mr Leeson to trade in London but Mr Leeson erroneously said in his application form that he had no county court judgments against him. In fact, in February 1991, Wokingham County Court entered a judgment relating to a £639 debt to the electronics group Hitachi.

Mr Sharples said: "We made our own research and discovered that there had been [a judgment]. So he lied on his form." The FSA passed on its findings to Barings.

Mr Leeson is today, at a closed court hearing in Frankfurt, due to fight Singapore's request for his extradition from Germany on grounds of alleged fraud.



Stanislas Yassukovich, left, Michael Cassidy, and Richard Brealey yesterday

City has clean bill of health

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE City of London is, in financial terms, virtually unassailable, according to the City Research Project, a three-year study whose report is published today.

It says traffic problems, unsympathetic regulation from the European Union and the possibility of Economic and Monetary Union going horribly wrong pose the biggest doubts over the City of London's prime role as an international financial centre.

The £15 million "health

check", which was commissioned by Michael Cassidy, chairman of the policy and resources committee at the City Corporation, was conducted by the London Business School under the direction of Professor Richard Brealey, and vetted by a governing board chaired by Stanislas Yassukovich, one of the City's most respected investment bankers.

It found that the City had such a commanding lead over potential rivals that it was

unlikely to succumb to continental competition from Paris or Frankfurt. Market leadership covers foreign exchange trading, international bank lending, bond and equity trading, marine and aviation insurance, shipbroking and base metal futures. Accumulated advantages, including 600,000 skilled people working in finance and associated services, and the concentration of liquidity are all hard for rivals to duplicate, the report says.

Northern to be pressed on new bid terms from Trafalgar

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A GROUP of institutional investors, encouraged by Trafalgar House, will today lobby the board of Northern Electric, demanding that directors agree to a renewed bid from Trafalgar House at 95p a share.

As many as 50 institutions, holding 35 per cent of shares in the regional electricity company, have signed a letter objecting to the board's out-of-hand rejection of Trafalgar's proposals for a £1 billion offer.

With Northern shares trading at 80p, and the sector average at 63p, institutions are demanding that the revised terms be made available, accompanied by a recommendation to accept. Advisors to Trafalgar House, supported by institutions, will meet representatives of the Takeover Panel to press their case.

Trafalgar's original £1.23 billion, £11-a-share offer lapsed on Friday, with more than 82.5 per cent acceptance. Under Panel rules, a new offer can only be made within 12 months, if Northern's directors consent.

Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator who triggered the collapse of utility share prices — and the Northern bid — last Tuesday by announcing a fresh review of the price cap on electricity charges, is to be called to account by the cross-party Trade and Industry Select Committee (TISC).

Unlike the Parliamentary employment committee, TISC, chaired by Labour's Richard Cabborn, has gained a reputation for searching questioning and rigorous analysis, producing a string of reports which have embarrassed the Government.

Draft terms of reference for the electricity inquiry, seen by *The Times*, suggest that the committee will focus on five key areas of concern about the privatised electricity regime. Foremost among these is expected to be the stewardship of Professor Littlechild, the Birmingham University economist who is Director-General of electricity supply.

He will be called to give evidence, together with heads of several regional electricity

companies, and both big private sector generators.

The inquiry will examine "the effectiveness of regulation". The committee will also examine plans for competition in the supply of electricity to households from 1998, the "adequacy of competition in generation", workings of the electricity wholesale market, and the future structure of the electricity supply industry in the light of the bid by Trafalgar for Northern.

The first meeting of the month-long electricity inquiry is expected to be held on May 24.

Graham Searjeant, page 42

Grimsby nets best profits

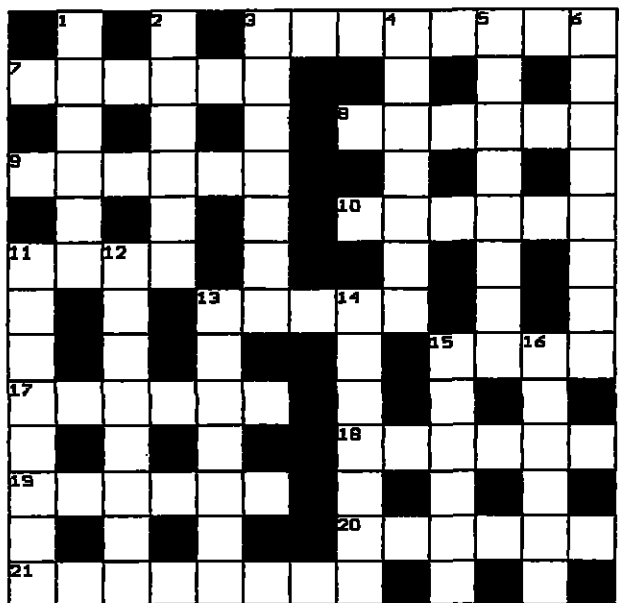
THE most profitable place to do business in Britain is ... Grimsby. In spite of the decline of its fishing industry, this east-coast town has fashioned a solid and successful economy from its food-processing skills, according to a nationwide survey by Dun & Bradstreet, the business information company (Ross Tieman writes).

The study, which covered 30,000 of Britain's largest businesses in 162 towns, found that 89.5 per cent of Grimsby companies made a profit in their latest report and accounts — the highest recorded. This compared with a national average of 74.9 per cent.

Others that fared well were Carlisle (88.7 per cent); Boston, Lincolnshire (88.6 per cent); Preston, Lancashire (87.3 per cent); and Halifax, Yorkshire (87.3 per cent). Some of the worst performances were in the south. Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, was bottom, with 54 per cent, closely followed by Hitchin, Hertfordshire (55.7 per cent) and Wokingham, Berkshire (59.4 per cent).



Jaap Manse, left, Cees Maas and Peter Teo, of ING



No 418

ACROSS

- 3 Cleared away (meal); exhausted (6,2)
- 7 Area in care of priest (6)
- 8 Rubber (6)
- 9 The noblest Roman of them all (6)
- 10 Spotted tile (6)
- 11 White river-bird (4)
- 13 Mean-minded: sort of naval officer (5)
- 15 Aquatic mammal; fasten tightly (4)
- 17 Having spines: tricky (question) (6)
- 18 Drink in (6)
- 19 Pregnant (6)
- 20 Scooped (out) (6)

DOWN

- 1 Bede home. 1930s march town (6)
- 2 Punctured by teeth (6)
- 3 Blow through teeth (7)
- 4 Concord (7)
- 5 Follower (of guru) (8)
- 6 Private, individual (8)
- 11 Refuse to budge (3,5)
- 12 Flames of the Inquisition (4-2-2)
- 13 Wistful (7)
- 14 Cash receipts (7)
- 15 Put down (opponent) (6)
- 16 John —, Brief Lifer; —Beardsley, illustrator (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 417

- ACROSS: 6 Tax inspector 7 Living 8 Adduce 9 Dear 10 Achiever 12 Parsifal 16 Bout 18 Folder 20 Villify 21 Hang one's head
- DOWN: 1 Ex-libris 2 Enigma 3 Splash 4 Acid 5 Douche 6 Title 11 Embolden 13 Amoral 14 Farina 15 Lavish 17 Unfed 19 Dogs

CROSSWORD BOOKS: The Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each). Books 3, 4, 5 & 6 NEW Book 7 £4.50 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each). Concise Book £5.99. The Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each). Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each). Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 to 13 £4.50 each). Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for IBM PCs and Amiga Archimedes computers — Prices £14.95 each — plus The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6. The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jumble Edition. Prices include postage (UK). Cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE24 8JW. Tel 0181-632 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Post Office seeks £150m investment

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is facing its first call from the Post Office for extra investment after the failure of its attempt to privatise the Royal Mail.

Post Office leaders are preparing an appeal for £150 million of new investment funding from the Treasury. This is likely to be the first in a long series of investment claims. The privatisation failure means that it is being refused the greater commercial freedom — including the ability to raise money on the markets and decide on its own investment plans — which senior managers insist is essential to the corporation's future.

Under the Post Office's current operating framework within the Government's public finances, the corporation has to submit capital projects costing £20 million or more to

the Government for specific approval. But Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, who is still considering a future framework for the Post Office after the failed privatisation, is inconsistent that the Government largely does not refuse such requests — but at a rate of about two a year, the Post Office rarely makes them.

The Post Office is preparing a call for £150 million of fresh Government investment to help fund a new rail terminal for mail distribution. The terminal is being constructed in north London.

Post Office managers say they are "actively" preparing an investment bid based around the Government's Private Finance Initiative, which aims to draw together public and private investment for big projects.

Wolfensohn set to lead World Bank

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton has chosen James Wolfensohn, a New York investment banker and chairman of Washington's Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts, to be the World Bank's next president.

Assuming the bank's executive directors ratify Mr Clinton's choice, and the job is traditionally the gift of the American President, Mr Wolfensohn will replace Lewis Preston, who is leaving early for health reasons.

Mr Wolfensohn, 61, was born in Australia, studied at the Harvard business school and took American citizenship in 1980. He was a partner in Salomon Brothers before founding his own New York investment firm in 1981.

For the past five years Mr Wolfensohn, an accomplished cellist, has commuted between New York and Washington,

where he has been battling to revitalise the Kennedy Centre. The World Bank, which has just celebrated its 50th anniversary, has troubles of its own, with critics accusing it of being too bureaucratic and blind to the social and environmental needs of developing nations it seeks to help.

These critics deplored the choice of another Wall Street banker with little experience of developing countries, for the \$190,000-a-year job. Juliette Major of the "50 years is enough" reform campaign, said: "It is Mr Wolfensohn's international commercial banking connections, and not his knowledge of the very real needs of poverty-stricken women, men and children of the developing world, that brings him to the World Bank. Mr Wolfensohn is becoming captain of a sinking ship."

Divorce the man, not his pension

By ANNE ASHWORTH



Hollis: warning of conflict

A FAIRER deal for the wife who divorces in middle life and loses her right to a share in her husband's pension is proposed in an amendment to the Pensions Bill, which reaches report stage in the House of Lords tomorrow.

Baroness Young, the former Conservative leader in the Lords, has put forward an amendment obliging courts to take into account the value of pensions when couples divorce, as is the case in Scottish law. The pension would not be split on divorce, but the wife would receive regular

payments from her former spouse once he retired. The measure would cause an amendment to be made to the Matrimonial Causes Act. A second amendment, amending Baroness Young's amendment, would transfer responsibility for paying pensions to ex-wives from husbands to the pension schemes of which they are members.

This change is sought by the Labour peer Baroness Hollis of Heigham, who believes that conflicts will arise if men are asked to pay pensions to their former wives,

especially if many years have passed since the breakdown of the marriage. She said: "If husbands are reluctant to pay, the result could be elderly women turned into pathetic litigants, forced to pursue their pension entitlement through the courts."

Lady Hollis also argues that second wives might not wish to see payments being made to their predecessors.

Moves to reform treatment of pension assets on divorce have all-party support, but some campaigners want pensions to be split at the time of divorce.

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